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CHESS

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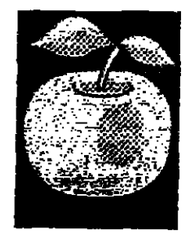
News, page 5



WOMEN IN PERIL

Don't wear lipstick in mullahs' Tehran

News, page 12



HEALTH

A war diet to beat breast cancer?

Body and Mind, page 14

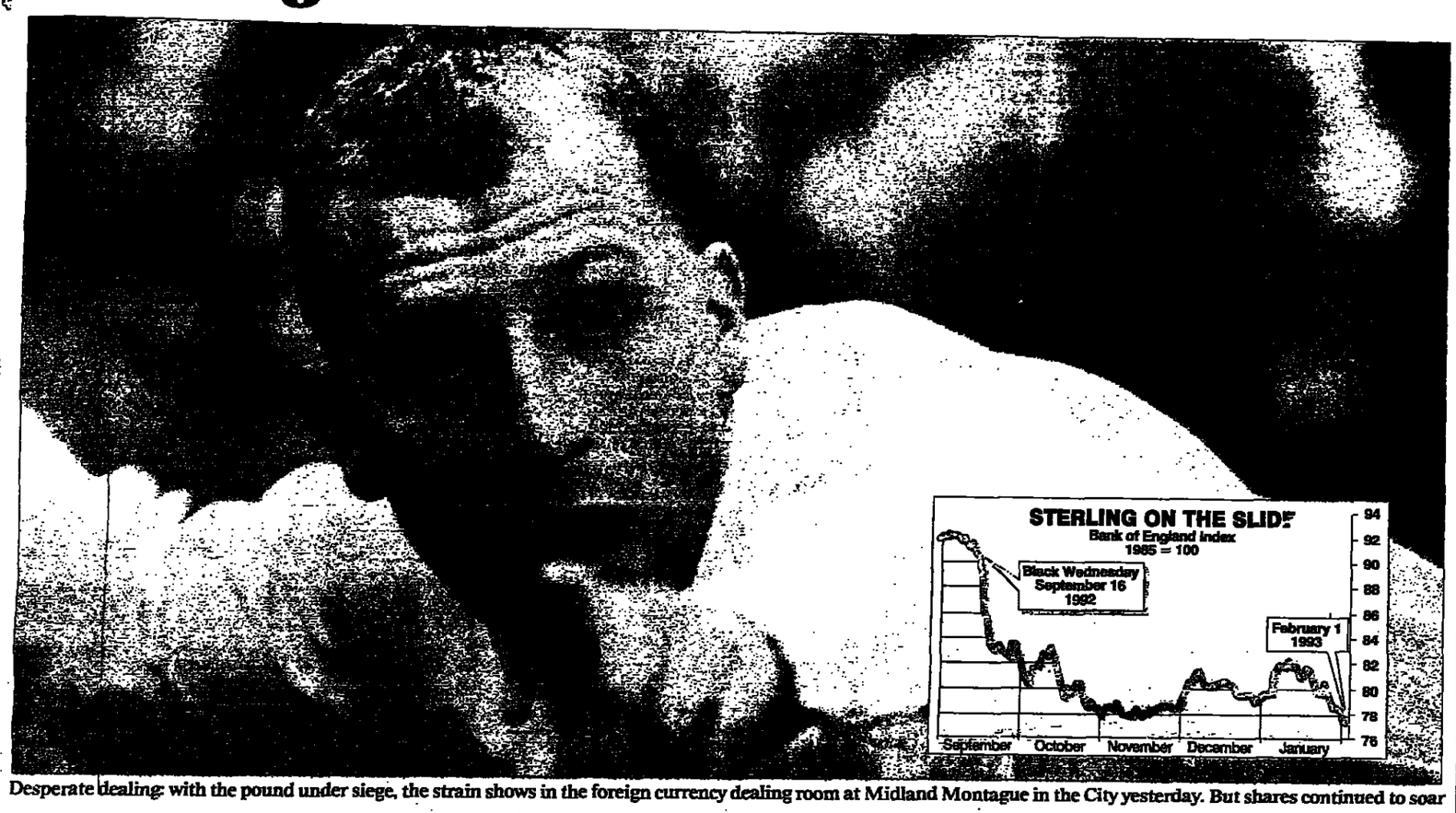
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LAW ON TUESDAY
Pages 28-32

THE TIMES

No. 64,557 TUESDAY FEBRUARY 2 1993 45p

Markets gamble against Major's rate cut denial



Desperate dealing: with the pound under siege, the strain shows in the foreign currency dealing room at Midland Montague in the City yesterday. But shares continued to soar

Pound puts Lamont on ropes

BY JANET BUSH AND PHILIP WEBSTER

■ The government is ruling out further interest rate cuts, even in the Budget next month. But soaring shares and a falling pound suggest that the City and the markets remain sceptical.

THE pound slumped to an all-time low and share prices soared yesterday as financial markets placed their bets on further aggressive cuts in British interest rates, disregarding strong and co-ordinated statements to the contrary from Downing Street, the Treasury and the Bank of England.

The markets have been convinced since the surprise one-point cut in base rates last Tuesday that the government has decided to go all out for growth and that rates could fall to 3 per cent this year. They also believe that economic policy is being made by John Major, who has made recovery his top priority.

Both the prime minister and Norman Lamont sent signals yesterday that last week's cut to 6 per cent would be the last for some time, and an authoritative source told *The Times* that it would be wrong to expect a cut in the Budget itself. Whitehall sources also insisted that there was no conflict over policy and Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, told overseas bankers last night that he did not believe there was any disagreement.

But while officials went to great lengths to emphasise that Mr Lamont, not Mr Major, had proposed last week's rate cut, the Chancellor's position again seemed in jeopardy and the markets persisted in putting their faith in the *Sunday Times* report that Mr Major was sidelining his Chancellor and wanted rates cut to 4 per cent as soon as possible.

Sterling recorded a new record low against the German mark in overnight Far East trading and, even after recovering a little in London, the Bank of England's sterling index closed at 77.4, compared with the previous low of 77.7 recorded in November. Share prices added more than £7 billion to their value as investors banked on cheaper loans to aid recovery. The FTSE 100 index closed 44.4 points higher at 2851.6, within ten points of its all-time high.



The broadly held view in the City is that the prime minister will pursue lower rates, whatever the warnings from his advisers. "Last week's experience shows that monetary policy is too important to be left up to the advice of the experts in the Treasury and the Bank of England," Stuart Thomson, an economist with Nikko Securities of Japan, said. Economists at Chase Manhattan in London agreed: "The Chancellor's previous forecasting mistakes on the recovery — some of which were quite understandable given the Treasury model's forecasting errors — have no exhausted the PM's patience, it seems."

The Seven Wise Men appointed to the Treasury's independent forecasting panel are also unanimous in supporting a policy of progressively lowering interest rates until the recovery is more obvious. Patrick Minford, the arch monetarist from Liverpool University, yesterday called for swift and aggressive cuts to 3 per cent and called for tax cuts in the budget. "You have to go back to the 1930s to find a parallel with the unprecedented overhang of debt in the economy. The government is quite right to cut interest rates and must do more." A clear majority of the Seven Wise Men, who will present their first report today

Continued on page 2, col 6

Volatile sterling, page 2
Leading article, page 17
Anthony Harris, page 21
Experts back Major, and Stock market, page 24
Tempus, page 25

INDEX

Arts	33-35
Births, marriages, deaths	18
Body and Mind	15
Business	21-26
Concise Crossword	40
Court and Social	18
Crossword	20
Diary	16
Feature	14
Law Report	32
Leading articles	17
Letters	17
Obituaries	19
Politics	10
Racing	37
Sport	36-38,40
Weather	20
Your own business	27
TV & radio	39

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Editor regrets article but says Major overreacted

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major was reacting to the article in *New Statesman and Society* linking the prime minister with Claire Latimer in an "unprecedented and wholly unnecessary" manner, Steve Platt, the magazine's editor, says in a letter to *The Times* today. His reaction had fuelled publicity for a report that was an attempt to uncover a smear, not to further it, Mr Platt writes.

In a letter to Mr Major's solicitors, the magazine's lawyers yesterday said it regretted that its article caused Mr Major or Miss Latimer any personal distress. As lawyers for the magazine and Mr Platt signalled their desire for a speedy resolution of the libel action, the publishers of the Dublin-based *Sunday Tribune* were waiting to see if any legal moves would be taken against them for reprinting the *New Statesman* article.

The lawyers' letter was from Bindman and Partners, for the magazine, to Biddle and Co, the prime minister's solicitors. A letter in almost identical terms was sent to solicitors acting for Miss Latimer, 41, whose firm, Clare's Kitchen, provides food at functions in 10 Downing Street. The prime minister and Miss Latimer had issued writs against the *New Statesman* and against the satirical magazine *Scallywag*.

The letter offered regrets but did not contain the word apology. It said the magazine was "very anxious that the totally unblemished personal reputations of the prime minister and Ms Latimer should be clearly and promptly vindicated". The magazine's lawyers promised to publish the letter in its next issue.

It added: "The article was never intended to assert that an affair, let alone an adulterous relationship, had ever taken place between the prime minister and Ms Clare Latimer." The letter said that the authors of the article did not believe and never had any reason to believe that any such affair or relationship had ever taken place. It added that they could not accept that the article was defamatory of Mr Major or Miss Latimer. It said it wanted the widest possible circulation.

Later Mr Platt said that he hoped the letter provided an opportunity to resolve the legal actions without having to go through the courts. "We are prepared to make whatever statement is required to produce some kind of resolution. I hope that offer will be accepted."



Platt: reaction was "unprecedented"

A press officer at 10 Downing Street said the letter was a matter for the prime minister's lawyers. Last night a spokesman for Biddle and Co said: "We have no comment to make".

Simon Regan, editor of *Scallywag* magazine, said of the libel writs: "We are presently going ahead with a defence."

Letters, page 17

Delors calls for economic summit to forge recovery

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

FRANCE yesterday supported a call by Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, an early meeting of leaders of the world's seven most industrialised nations, as Paris staved off any new assault on the franc.

The proposal for a G7 summit as early as April — three months sooner than planned — came as Sir Leon Brittan, the European commissioner for external economic affairs, accused Washington of "unilateral bullying" for freezing out European Community companies when awarding federal contracts for goods or services. Sir Leon said the announcement that some or all EC suppliers would be shut out of the American federal market on March 22 was counterproductive.

M Delors told EC foreign ministers in Brussels that an early G7 summit should produce firm decisions to "restore the dynamism of the world economy". Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, endorsed the suggestion but Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, said Bonn was "open-minded" about M Delors's proposal.

In Bonn, the German government emphasised that it remained committed to the European exchange-rate mechanism, despite evidence of tension with the Bundesbank over interest rates.

In Paris, an expected onslaught on the franc failed to materialise. Michel Sapin, the finance minister, said: "There is no economic reason to devalue the franc. If it is attacked we will fight back, with the same determination and the same methods as the last time." France spent 160 billion francs defending the currency, with the help of Germany in September and almost as much again more recently.

M Sapin is expected to have offended Britain and Ireland by saying "France is not Ireland. France is a country fundamental to the construction of Europe," and accusing Britain of following a policy of "every man for himself."

Fragile partnership, page 10
Nicholas Ridley, page 16

Twice daily she rushes back home.



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Israel gives way over deportees in US deal

FROM REUTER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL has decided to let some of the Palestinians it deported to southern Lebanon come back immediately and shortened the term of exile of the others, Israel television said yesterday.

Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, called a cabinet meeting to decide on the move after working out details with the US ambassador, William Harrop, the television said.

Yossi Sarid, the minister of ecology, commented: "This is a compromise. I think it is very helpful to Israel." In return for Israel taking back more than 100 deportees and halving the exile terms of others to a maximum of one year, he said, UN sanctions against Israel could be averted with the full backing of America, Middle East peace talks could resume, and relations with the new Clinton administration could start on a good footing.

Israel deported 415 alleged Muslim activists on December 17, after Hamas (the Islamic Resistance Movement) killed five Israeli servicemen. The deportees have been stranded in a no man's land between Israeli and Lebanese army lines in southern Lebanon. Palestinian negotiators have declared they would not resume peace talks with Israel until the deportees were brought back.

Hurd call, page 11

Queen told of Royal Mail sell-off

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND PHILIP BASSETT

THE Queen has been informed "as a matter of courtesy" that the government is considering privatising the Royal Mail and has let it be known that she will accept the advice of ministers.

Michael Heseltine, the Board of Trade president, indicated yesterday that selling off the Post Office as a single entity would be a strong option. Last night, royal sources denied that the Queen had "agreed in principle". Many Tories are uneasy at the privatisation prospect.

Good candidate? page 7
Leading article, page 17

Rise in house prices buoys hope of upturn

BY RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

HOUSE prices rose by more than 1 per cent last month compared to December, the largest rise for more than a year. The figures are the firmest confirmation yet of earlier anecdotal evidence from estate agents and builders that the market is on the mend.

The exact figure will be revealed by the Nationwide this week in its monthly house price index. The Halifax's index has yet to be calculated. With last week's interest rate cut, analysts expect that the price rises will be sustained this month, but cautioned that the recovery is still fragile.

The rise is significant as January is a flat month in the housing calender. Agents and builders are geared to a spring buying season.

Auction houses also report that prices have been edging up. The rises have followed an unexpected pre-Christmas boom that made December the busiest month for at least three years, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Figures from the Council of Mortgage Lenders showing new mortgage commitments also showed an increase in December on November.

Agents are also reporting that tenants are considering buying again. Chestertons Residential has many enquiries from London tenants.

As the pound plunges, the spotlight shines more fiercely on the Chancellor's performance



☐ **Ann Robinson, policy head of the Institute of Directors:** "We have to build a sustainable economic framework where business people can make their plans for the next year and the year after in a reasonable expectation that there will not be a sudden change in economic policy."



☐ **Gordon Brown, shadow Chancellor:** "It is now unclear not only who is in charge of economic policy but what policy now is. What is clear is that there is huge confusion . . . I don't think that anybody in the government knows not only what they are going to do but who will responsible for doing it."



☐ **Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, former Labour Chancellor:** "Mr Lamont is constantly in the position of saying to the prime minister, 'Please may I stay in office for another few months to do a Budget to hope that things will pick up, that my reputation will improve.' "



☐ **Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries, the tobacco group:** "The pound's weakness will have a beneficial impact when profits are translated into sterling. There is no direct impact from weaker currencies on trading profits." The group earns more than half its profits in dollar-denominated currencies.



☐ **John Butterfill, vice-chairman of the Conservative backbench finance committee:** "There is a very great deal of confidence in the Chancellor which is not understood in the world at large. There is unanimous backing for the Chancellor's policies in the backbench committee and that is reflected throughout the party."

Volatile sterling makes British industrialists jumpy

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

■ Britain's business community says that instability in exchange rates reduces confidence and outweighs any advantages from a cheaper pound

BRITISH industry, already hard-hit by a recession which has gone on too long, viewed yesterday's hammering of sterling with exasperation.

What British industry wants from government monetary policy is clear: low interest rates and stable exchange rates. Low interest rates allow industry to invest and businesses to grow, providing jobs and profits. Stable exchange rates allow businesses to plan properly and to do deals with international customers and suppliers at prices which can be properly built into their own costs.

For some time, industry's view has been that the government has delivered neither. Interest rates have been too high and, since Britain's ejection from the European exchange-rate mechanism last September, exchange rates have been too mobile to allow industry to rebuild the confidence ministers believe is a prerequisite of economic recovery.

Of the two, interest rates have been seen as the overriding problem. With the cost of borrowing high, industry had little or no incentive or opportunity to invest, and every need to cut costs. The resulting job losses and recruitment freezes pushed up unemployment.

Since the pound came out of the ERM, British business has remained sceptical about what actually is the government's economic policy, and become increasingly worried about exchange-rate stability.

Ian Thompson, economics head at the Engineering Employers' Federation, said: "The EEF's view is that exchange-rate instability, particularly in Europe, is very expensive to UK business because of its dependency on customers and suppliers in mainland Europe."

As part of increasing European involvement, British industry does a vast amount of business abroad and such deals depend on contracts. If exchange rates vary sharply, all forms of contracts — with customers and suppliers, and in relation to competitors' deals which may not be affected by volatile exchange rates — are plunged into confusion. There is, too, the organisational grind of recalculating contracts on the basis of changed rates.

As one business leader put it testily last night: "It's the not knowing what the exchange rate is actually going to be which is the real problem."

Some exchange-rate changes have obvious attractions. Companies such as the oil refining and distribution firms which do a lot of business in dollars may well benefit from a weak pound, watching their profits increase when translated into sterling.

Reuters, the international information group, derives 80 per cent of its revenue overseas, of which, according to mid-June 1992 calculations, 65 per cent is Deutschmark related, 6 per cent dollar related, and 3 per cent Japanese related.

The balance of the group's currency exposure was to various other currencies. However, a spokesman said that while any persistent weakness in sterling has to be good for Reuters' reported profits, a marginal blip in sterling's exchange rate has only minimal effect.

A weakened pound can have advantages for job-creating foreign investors in Britain, too. Sterling's devaluation in September reduced UK wages at a stroke by 10 per cent in foreign currency terms. This gave foreign companies operating in the UK — led by Nissan, Sony, Toshiba and Toyota — an increased attraction compared with other European countries on top of already-startling cost advantages. According to the London office of the Japanese-based Nomura Research, in 1991, for example, UK wages were 44 per cent lower than in Germany, 30 per cent lower than in Italy and 15 per cent lower than in France.

But attractive though such figures are, industrial economists believe they are outweighed by the instability generated by rapidly-fluctuating rates. Significantly, the free-market based Institute of Directors specifically warned of the possibility of increased exchange-rate instability at the time of last week's cut in interest rates, when Dr Ann Robinson, the institute's policy head, said: "There is a danger that a full point off the base rate at this stage may destabilise the exchange rate. This would have an adverse effect on input prices, raising the cost of goods in an already weak domestic market, and the Chancellor must now keep a wary eye on all the economic indicators."

As sterling conformed yesterday to her predictions, Dr Robinson said that the reason why the free-market institute was able to strike such a note of caution was that, unlike some other business-based bodies, its economic staff kept a close eye on the markets.

But some industrial calculations were more sanguine. Sudhir Junankar, the CBI's deputy economic affairs director, most of British industry was able to look beyond short-term fluctuations in the currency markets. While not underestimating the impact of changes in exchange rates, he pointed to the rising strength of sterling against the mark at the beginning of January. Other business analysts said that while a day's sharp movement in the pound in the midst of considerable political uncertainty rightly made newspaper headlines, it was exchange-rate performance over a longer period such as six months which really counted.

Sterling's fall, page 1
Leading article, page 17

The double-act that must be seamless for stability's sake

BY PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE relationship between a prime minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer is central to the stability of government. When there are stories of differences, as now between John Major and Norman Lamont, the government's credibility is shaken and financial markets become jittery.

No prime minister is willing to devolve control completely to any Chancellor, however distinguished. The occupant of 10 Downing Street will want the final say over decisions on interest rates and big tax changes, to the frequent irritation of his or her neighbour in 11 Downing Street.

The history of tensions is as long as that of warm and amicable relations. Harold Macmillan, for example, had difficult relations with two of his four chancellors who tried to dampen inflationary pressures, with the result that one, Peter Thorneycroft, resigned in January 1958 and the other, Selwyn Lloyd, was summarily sacked in July 1962.

Harold Wilson had wary relations with his chancellors, such as Roy Jenkins, whom he sometimes saw as challengers.

The delicacy of relations was highlighted during the prolonged sterling crisis of 1976. Denis Healey faced an initially sceptical James Callaghan when the Labour government was negotiating with the International Monetary Fund. In the end, the prime minister backed his chancellor. Mr Callaghan knew he had no choice if the loan was to be negotiated and his government was to survive.

When sterling is under pressure the chancellor normally gets his way, as Mr Healey did, and as Mr Macmillan as chancellor did during the 1956 Suez crisis when his warnings about the American refusal to support sterling forced Anthony Eden to halt the British military operation.

Margaret Thatcher always took her position as First Lord of the Treasury seriously. As Nigel Lawson records in his memoirs *The View from Number 11*, she forced him to accept a cut in interest rates in spring 1988 which he soon bitterly regretted. Lord Lawson's memoirs are full of how, with varying degrees of success, he tried to head off interference from the prime minister or her advisers, notably Sir Alan Walters.

By contrast, when he was Chancellor Mr Major was determined to avoid any public suggestion of divisions with Mrs Thatcher. He has followed the same approach with Mr Lamont, whom he has strenuously backed in public. However, while the public words remain the same, the private tensions have increasingly come to the surface.



Uneasy neighbours: Margaret Thatcher and Nigel Lawson were often at odds

Markets gamble on rate cuts

Continued from page 1

and meet formally at the Treasury to discuss the Budget next week, are also likely to advise against raising taxes next month.

Yesterday's events have strengthened the belief of many MPs that Mr Lamont will not be able to remain at the Treasury for long after presenting his budget. A senior ministerial source said yesterday: "This has gone on for too long. His position was hopeless after September 16; it is worse than hopeless now." Most Tory MPs believe, however, that Mr Lamont should present the Budget. It would be unprecedented and an admission of crisis for a prime minister to drop his Chancellor at this point.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, said yesterday: "It is now unclear not only who is in charge of economic policy but what policy now is."

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, leader of the Liberal Democrats in the Lords and a former Labour Chancellor, said that Mr Lamont "has none of the authority which a Chancellor of the Exchequer needs." He is constantly in the position of saying to the prime minister 'please may I stay in office for another few months to do a budget to hope that things will pick up, that my reputation will improve'."

Leading article, page 17
Anthony Harris, page 21
Experts back Major, page 24
Tempus, page 25

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ulster march speech studied by police

Police are studying recordings of a speech made by one of the so-called Birmingham Six, in which he called for British soldiers to be sent home from Northern Ireland "in boxes" (Edward Gorman, Ireland correspondent, writes).

Patrick Hill, who spent 16 years in jail before his conviction for the Birmingham pub bombings was quashed in March 1991, was addressing the annual Bloody Sunday commemoration in Londonderry at the weekend to mark the shooting dead of 13 people by British soldiers during an anti-internment demonstration in the city in 1972. The 5,000 marchers also heard criticism of Michael Mates, Northern Ireland security minister, who was heard on Irish television last week saying: "There would have been no murder of anybody if it hadn't been for the bloody riot."

William Ross, Ulster Unionist MP for Londonderry East, said the speech was practically an incitement to violence. The march organisers, the independent Bloody Sunday Initiative, said they did not support violence.

Baby-killer jailed

A young mother wept in court yesterday as her husband was jailed for seven years for beating their baby daughter to death. Diane Flynn, 20, was so convinced of Nicholas Flynn's innocence that she married him five months later and had another child by him, she told Southwark Crown Court. The prosecution said that Flynn killed the 17-week-old baby in a drunken rage because she would not stop crying. Flynn, 20, of Camberley, Surrey, was cleared of murder but found guilty of manslaughter.

Trident keel is laid

Jonathan Aitken, defence procurement minister, officially laid the keel of Britain's fourth Trident-class nuclear submarine at the VSEL yard at Barrow-in-Furness yesterday. The unnamed £600 million vessel will take seven years to complete. Community leaders say that without the contract, Barrow would have been in severe difficulties.

Last Tango on TV

The Marlon Brando film *Last Tango in Paris* will receive its mainstream British television premiere on Valentine's day. Channel 4, which will show the uncensored 1972 film in its TV Love Weekend, said that it was a serious work, not a blue movie. The Independent Television Commission said that it had no powers of preview but would watch the broadcast.

'The complete answer to male impotence'

A new book by W. Walsh. Foreword – Dr. A. Williams.

IF your sex drive isn't quite what it used to be – there's no need to worry. These days, most men can lead a healthy virile sex life right into their eighties.

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MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Vision of the future is a no-score draw

Is there nothing so banal that it is safe from becoming the centrepiece of a modern statesman's vision for the next millennium? At his conference last year the triumphant Mr Major, fresh from his election victory, promised lavatory stops on every motorway. This week, Labour is promising to double-glaze every home in Britain. Meanwhile, Liberal Democrats propose new efficiency standards for fridges and ideas for recycling yoghurt containers.

Now is the hour of the anti-heroic. Gone are the grand sweep, the broad sunlit uplands. In has come the elevation of the humdrum to the status of political art.

Nothing better illustrated the L.S. Lowry landscape that MPs now celebrate than last week's debate on the national lottery bill. That privy counsellors of impeccable breeding could claim to be "enormously excited" by proposals for a state lottery is bad enough. Worse still are the grounds on which the Opposition claimed to be worried.

Try to guess why a socialist MP in the great tradition of George Lansbury and Nye Bevan might object to a Tory government running a mega-lottery. Did Labour spokesmen suggest it was demeaning or vulgar? Pickpocketing the poor? Worshipping materialism? Did they object lest Her Majesty's government should soil its hands? Not a bit of it. Labour's concern was that a big lottery might threaten the pools industry.

MP after MP, people who would have opposed the idea of pools when it was first mooted, leapt to plead for this great British tradition. Ann Clwyd, Labour spokesman, spoke of her distress. She told of grandmothers, mothers and daughters who had laboured on the pools down the ages. "It reminded me very much of the mining industry," she said, "where generations have worked in coal." MPs thrilled to the concept of a sisterhood forged by common suffering at the rockface of the coupon-pile.

Others rose to warn of job losses should pools perish: 6,000 in Liverpool, 1,000 in Cardiff . . . huge new swaths of society utterly dependent upon the pools were revealed. Was there anyone in Britain who did not depend on Vernons, Littlewoods and Zetters? The impression grew of a phenomenon as central to our national life as ICI, the Parachute Regiment and the Queen Mother rolled into one.

Labour's hopes for Britain's future emerged as being to cherish the pools and guard them from danger. The pools are safe with us, the heritage secretary declared defensively. So this is what the Tories mean by heritage: this is Labour's key to the industrial miracle of the 21st century. Forward With The Pools!

And now, this week, comes the double-glazing. A press handout from Chris Smith, Labour's tousle-headed environment protection spokesman, promises a Britain fit for double-glazing salesmen to live in:

"(i) a basic package of water tank lagging, hot water pipe lagging, supply of low-energy light-bulbs, thermostats on heating systems and radiators, draft-proofing to doors and windows, and 6in-thick loft insulation; (ii) for those with cavity walls, the provision of cavity wall insulation; (iii) the installation of double-glazing."

Exhausted by so much vision, I looked into yesterday's debate. Maastricht rebels were trying to interest Parliament in the question of its own sovereignty.

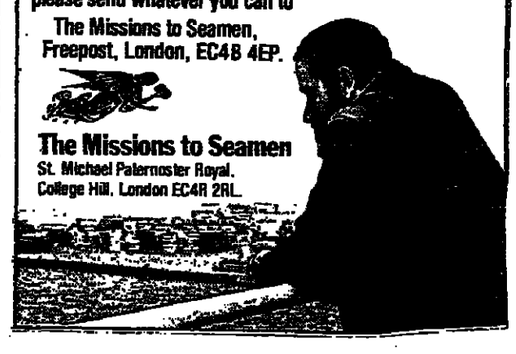
Feet on the table, ministers fidgeted. This was time-wasting. This would build no motorway loos.

Loneliness is just one problem

And it is a fairly common problem for seafarers away from home for months at a time. But it is only one of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian society working among seafarers we are asked for all kinds of help-spiritual, emotional, social and practical.

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Hospital pharmacist may have accepted lift from her killer

BY PAUL WILKINSON

DETECTIVES searching for the killer of Linda Fleming, a hospital pharmacist found battered to death on a lonely moorland road, believe she probably knew her killer.

They are working on a theory that Miss Fleming, 23, accepted a lift from her murderer as she waited for a bus to take her to work 11 days ago. Her fully clothed body was found on Sunday by hill-walkers near Scammonden, West Yorkshire, about five miles from her home at Elland. It had been left in a 6ft deep ditch about three yards from the road. Police say there were no signs of a sexual attack.

The last known sighting of Miss Fleming was at 8am on January 22 when she was seen at a bus stop. She had left her parent's house shortly before, on her way to her job at the Northowram Hospital in Halifax.

Det Supt Michael Saunders, who is leading the murder enquiry, said: "At that time in the morning it is a very busy area, and it is difficult to think that nobody would have seen a forcible abduction.

"It is more likely that she was picked up by someone she knew, or at least felt comfortable with."

Police know that Miss Fleming was killed elsewhere and her body dumped on the moor, but are not sure for how long she had lain undiscovered. Mr Saunders said: "The cause of death has been found to be severe head injuries caused by a blunt instrument. It was a very, very heavy attack to her head. It was certainly a determined attack."

Mr Saunders said it was proving difficult to say exactly when she died. "It may be that she was held somewhere for a time before her body was dumped," he said. "Anyone passing in a car would not have been able to see the body. It is a stretch of road where you would have been able to sit in a vehicle and wait for the opportune time to take a body out. The chances of being disturbed are very small."

Miss Fleming's parents reported her missing the morning after she was last seen when she failed to return home from work. Police enquiries showed that she had not arrived at her job the previous day.

Despite the police's belief that she had not been forcibly kidnapped, they still carried out a massive search. Divers dragged a nearby canal and river and dog teams scoured woodland close to her home.

At first Miss Fleming's family believed she might have gone off after some unknown emotional upset and last week her parents and Stuart Williamson, 25, her boy friend, made a tearful appeal for her to get in touch.

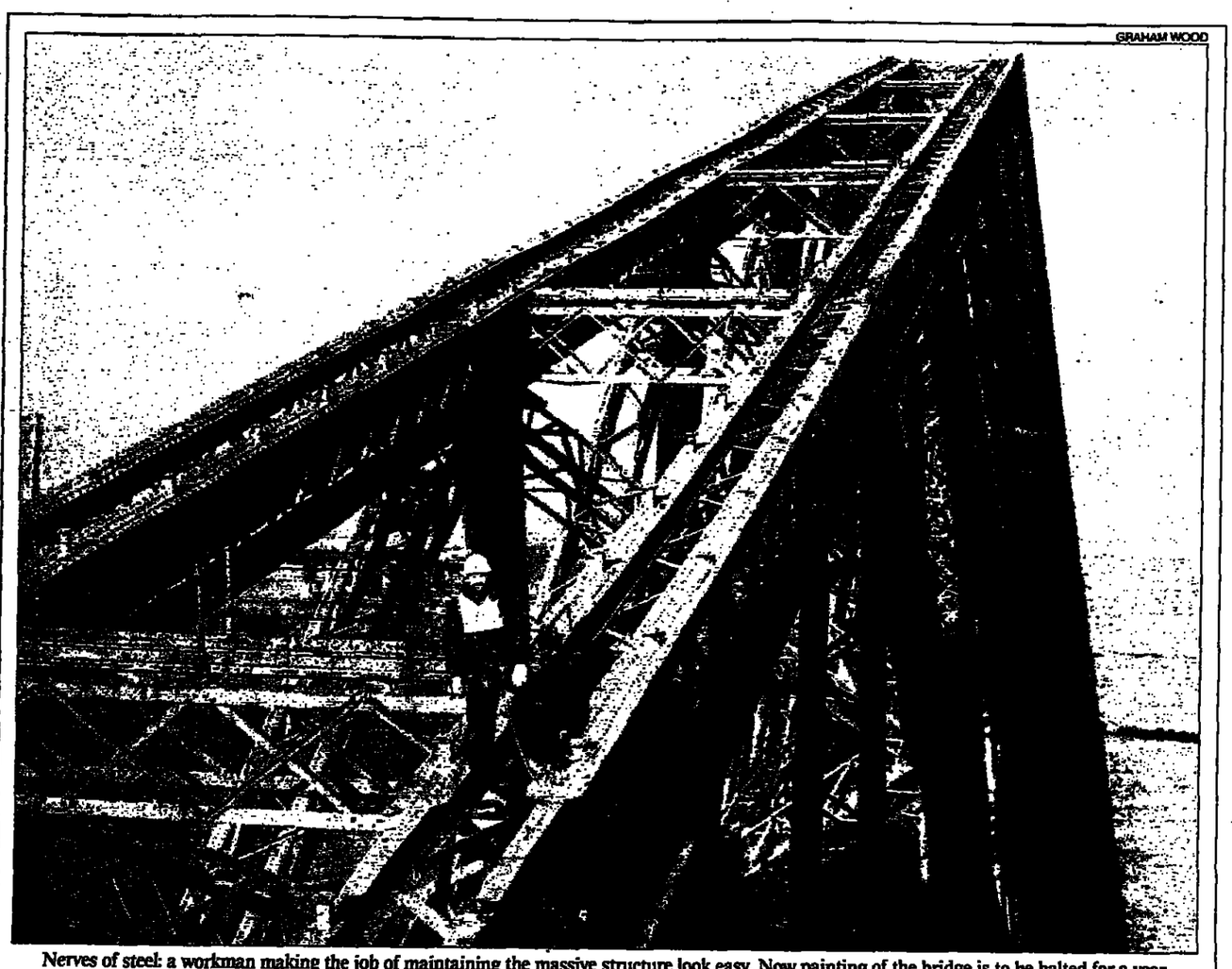
But at the time her father, Derek Fleming, a joinery manager, said: "She's an intelligent, level-headed girl and we are sure she would not have gone off on her own." She had been pleased at securing an honours degree at university in Brighton, East Sussex, and her only recent problem had been to fail her driving test, but she was already planning to retake it.

Mr Williamson said Miss Fleming had been in good spirits the previous evening, planning how to celebrate his birthday and what present she would buy him.

The dead woman's shoulder bag and white three-quarter length anorak are still missing, and Mr Saunders asked for witnesses to contact the incident room at Halifax police station.



Fleming: bag and anorak missing



GRAHAM WOOD

Nerves of steel: a workman making the job of maintaining the massive structure look easy. Now painting of the bridge is to be halted for a year

Cuts halt flow of Forth bridge paint

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

PAINTING of the Forth rail bridge, which has continued without a break since the celebrated red steel structure was opened in 1890, is to be interrupted. The painters who undertook the sisyphean work on the mile-long bridge will down brushes for a year because of spending cuts by ScotRail.

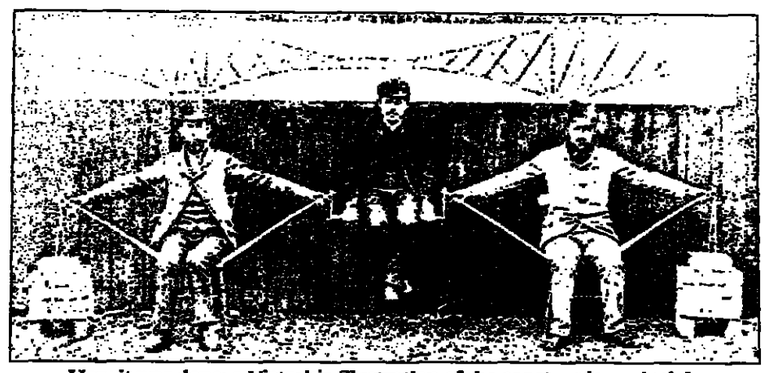
The network, which owns the bridge, employs about 40 people to maintain it, including 16 full-time painters who keep it well coated against the elements. Because of bad weather the painters spend less than a third of the year painting the exposed areas, but work on the underside continues all year round.

Painting the bridge costs about £600,000 a year. Cyril Bleasedale, a ScotRail director, said: "We have to manage a 20 per cent reduction in spending. We shall take a maintenance holiday on painting the Forth bridge for a year. For a single year this is not too serious, except that it stores up the problem of higher spend to be faced in the future."

The bridge was opened by the Prince of Wales on March 4, 1890, after a seven-year building programme in which 57 of the 5,000 workers lost their lives. A further 500 were injured. Keeping it covered in paint used to be an equally hazardous job. In the old days the painters used bosun's chairs to reach many parts of the 450ft-high structure. Today, although about 200 trains cross the bridge each day, the safety record is good. The painters have cradles that run on rails.

A ScotRail spokesman said: "None of the 16 painters will be made redundant as a result of the cutbacks. They will be redeployed in other areas and maintenance of the bridge will continue."

☐ Ian Lang, secretary of state for Scotland, yesterday approved a feasibility study into a privately funded second road bridge across the Forth as part of a scheme to improve transport around the Firth of Forth.



How it was done: a Victorian illustration of the construction principle

A day to forget...or remember

BY JOE JOSEPH

FOR the superstitious and the pessimistic, February 2 may be the day to circle in your diary.

The usual reasons for staying in bed — bad weather, waiting for the gasman, being jobless — do not apply. What matters is the conjunction of Uranus and Neptune in Capricorn, a troublesome astrological confluence.

The last time this pattern disfigured our skies, in 1821, Napoleon died. The time before that, in 1649, Charles I was beheaded. You might assume that a constellation that returns every 170 years and merely fells European leaders need not bother us. But French astrologers warn against complacency.

Madame Schipper predicts that a major political crisis will tear apart the European Community. Best telephone the office and stay home. Amandine, another French stargazer, agrees. So does Britain's June Penn.

Other British astrologers seem not to share the Gallic gloom. Michael Harding, chairman of Britain's Association of Professional Astrologers, feels the world might be safer if Mme Schipper took her own advice and stayed indoors today.

But the reprieve may be temporary. Gregor, a German astrologer, agrees that scares about February 2 are bunkum, because it is April 6 you have to fear. "That's when world war three will start," he says.

Women inundate hospital hotline after hepatitis scare

BY BILL FROST

MORE than 1,000 women are to be tested for hepatitis B and hundreds of others besieged a hospital hotline after a surgeon in the obstetrics and gynaecology department of Stafford District General Hospital was found to be a carrier of the virus.

The hospital hotline was set up on Sunday after the unnamed surgeon and one of his patients were both found to have contracted the disease.

A spokeswoman said: "The telephone started ringing on Sunday night and they began again early in the morning. Some women are clearly concerned and our counsellors are talking to them to try and allay their fears and anxieties."

Dr Harsh Duggal, a consultant in the control of communicable diseases working for the Mid Staffordshire District Health Authority, took some of the calls. "Most of the women are shell shocked: extremely worried that they may have hepatitis B. We stress to them that the risk of infection is very limited and do our best to calm their fears. All we can do is emphasise that the chance of infection is limited," Dr Duggal said.

The surgeon at the centre of the scare is undergoing counselling. "When he found out he was a carrier he took voluntary leave and is currently receiving advice. He is in a fairly stressful position, with a budding career as a specialist halted.

"The doctor will probably never be able to carry out surgery again. It is tragic he did not know he was carrying the virus," Dr Duggal said.

The 26-year-old woman who contracted hepatitis B, apparently during a caesarean operation at the hospital, has made a complete recovery. Her infant son was not infected by the virus.

More than 1,000 women are now being asked to take tests for hepatitis B. The district health authority was yesterday contacting general practitioners and advising them to "counsel and support" patients and, if necessary, obtain blood samples for analysis.

A spokesman for the authority said: "We are investigating the facts of this unfortunate case and doing our utmost to keep patients informed. As a precautionary measure we are getting in touch with all women who have been in contact with the particular member of staff and may be at risk."

Bill Cash, the Tory MP for Stafford, yesterday called for an investigation. "Obviously there has got to be a full enquiry into how this happened. Procedures at the hospital may need to be tightened up," he said.

Sue Poole, chairwoman of the Mid Staffordshire Community Health Council, suggested there was a need to re-examine screening and vaccination procedures for doctors. "It is important that screening be carried out on a regular basis so that infection is not passed on," she said.

Dr Duggal said it would not be long before health authority guidelines were changed. "It is likely that students will asked to undergo screening and inoculation at medical school," he said.

Lady Green letters are examined

BY LIN JENKINS

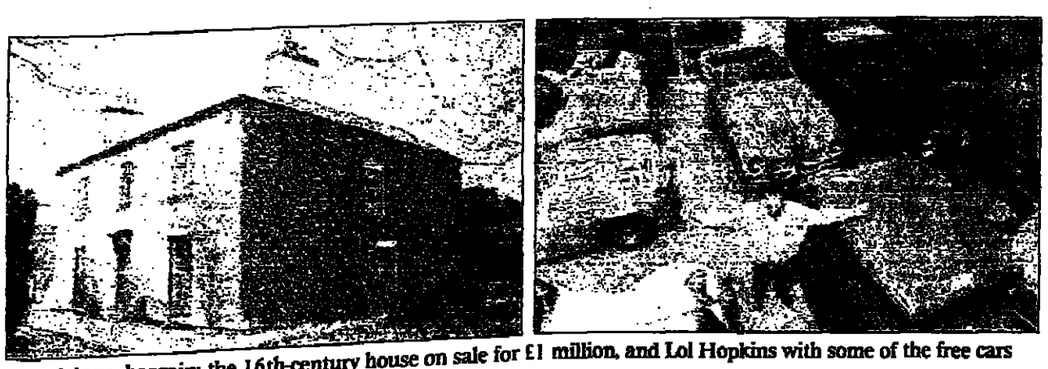
PERSONAL letters left by Lady Green, the estranged wife of the former Director of Public Prosecutions Sir Allan Green, were being studied by the Westminster coroner's office yesterday.

Lady Green was found dead by her son, Robin, at her London home on Saturday. The letters, to members of her family, and an empty bottle of pills were near her body. One letter is thought to be addressed to her son and another to his sister, Suzie.

A post mortem examination will be carried out today and an inquest will be opened by Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, tomorrow.

Lady Green, 47, separated from her husband a year ago. He resigned as DPP in October 1991 after being cautioned for kerb crawling at King's Cross. Yesterday Sir Allan was absent from a murder trial at the Central Criminal Court where he had been acting for the defendant.

Vendor offers classic cars free with house



Driving a bargain: the 16th-century house on sale for £1 million, and Lol Hopkins with some of the free cars

A £1 million 16th-century house has been put up for sale with a collection of 21 classic cars thrown in for free.

Lol Hopkins, a businessman, is so keen to sell his home in Sutton Cheney, Leicestershire, that he is prepared to include his treasured cars in the deal, including vintage Rolls-Royces. He says that the house, which has a heated indoor swimming pool, six bedrooms and garages for 30 cars, is too big for him and his wife, Carol, now that their two children have grown up and left.

He has built himself a bungalow near by and wants to sell the house and move as soon as possible. "The wife and I rattle around like two peas in a pod in the house and now the kids have grown up we don't need all that space," said Mr Hopkins, 55, who made his money in second-hand car parts and property dealing in the eighties. "It would be too expensive to store the cars anywhere, so whoever wants the house can have them too."

Mr Hopkins has spent the past 30 years building up the collection, said to be worth about £650,000 and will keep three of the cars if a deal goes through. "I've always loved cars and the collection has been my pride and joy," he said. "But the time is right to get rid of them, although I will keep one of the Rolls-Royces, an E-type Jag and a Corvette.

"I would like to think that the cars stay with the house," he said. "But I don't think there are that many fools like me around nowadays, so it wouldn't surprise me if they were sold off. Still, I've had the enjoyment out of them, it's only fair someone else gets a bit of pleasure from them now."

AREA CODES CHANGE ON PHONEDAY

ON 16 APRIL 1995, your area code will change. Oftel, the Office of Telecommunications, has announced that the availability of new telephone numbers in the UK is to be increased.

Recent years have seen considerable growth in the range of telecoms services on offer, and in the number of companies operating such services.

These have been matched by increases in customer demand.

To ensure that these trends can continue, and to allow customers to benefit in full from the continuing growth in the networks, one digit is to be added to all UK area codes.

The change will come into effect on Phoneday, 16 April 1995.

● All UK geographic area codes will have a 1 inserted after the initial 0. For example, the Dundee code changes from 0382 to 01382; the London codes from 071 to 0171 and 081 to 0181; and so on.

● Bristol, Leeds, Leicester, Nottingham and Sheffield will each receive entirely new codes to help meet the rapid growth in demand for telecoms services in these cities.

Their local numbers will also be extended by the addition of an extra digit at the start of the existing number.

● At the same time, all international dialling codes will change from the 010 prefix to 00. This will bring the UK into line with the rest of Europe, as required by the EC.

If you'd like to know more about Phoneday, call for your free information pack on 0800 01 01 01.

16 APRIL 1995

PHONEDAY

AREA CODES STARTING 0 WILL START 01

This advertisement has been issued by BT in the interests of the UK Telecommunications Industry.

Women reap rewards of rationing

Wartime diet cuts breast cancer risk

BY AILEEN BALLANTYNE

THE female "war babies" of the 1940s are about 20 per cent less likely to develop breast cancer than doctors expected, according to the results of a study issued yesterday by the Cancer Research Campaign.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of death in women aged 35 to 64 in the United Kingdom, and affects one woman in 12. The sharp decline in expected cases among women now in their late forties or early fifties is thought to be due to the diet of the war years: low in calories, high in fibre and rich in "anti-cancer" vitamins.

The trends shown in the study, carried out in Scotland where cancer figures have been kept for decades, are expected to be repeated in studies in England and Wales. Professor Gordon McVie, scientific director of the campaign, said that the results were encouraging. "This is the first time since cancer figures have been kept that we have seen a significant dip in the incidence of breast cancer."

Cancer experts believe that the early years and those leading to puberty, when breast tissue starts developing, appear to be important in providing protection.

The study's author, Professor Peter Boyle, head of epidemiology at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, said that the findings gave a strong clue to the causes of breast cancer. "During the second world war, for the first time, there was a systematic attempt to make sure that everybody got a balanced diet."

The war diet, worked out by the leading dietitians of the day, was similar to that being recommended today as the best means of avoiding cancer. Latest guidelines from the World Health Organisation and the National Cancer Institute in the United States recommend eating at least five portions of fresh fruit or vegetables, as well as potatoes, every day. Such foods are known to be rich in vitamins A, C and E and are thought to have a protective effect against cancers of the stomach, bowel and lung.

"Britain's wartime diet is generally acknowledged to be our best ever, and was specifically designed to serve the nutritional needs of the nation," Professor McVie said. "Extra vitamins A and D were added to margarine and, from 1941, children and pregnant women were given orange juice and cod liver oil to provide vitamins A, C and D, which are important constituents of an 'anti-cancer' diet."

He said that the decline in breast cancer among children brought up during the war and rationing years might not continue, due to the gradual switch to a "junk food" diet. He said that if parents were worried that children were not eating sufficient fruit they should give them a multi-vitamin supplement containing vitamins A, C, D and E.

JULIAN HERBERT



Future in sight: Odin, shown with his handler, Tracy Fairs, may be able to be returned to his native Africa

Vet makes blind bird eagle-eyed

BY JOHN YOUNG

ODIN, a 10-month-old African tawny eagle who was born blind, is learning to fly after having his sight partially restored by an operation to remove cataracts.

The eagle was born in Britain as part of a scheme that breeds threatened species in captivity and releases them in their native wild. When it was discovered that Odin was blind, he was put into the care of the New Forest Owl Sanctuary and operated on by Ian Mason, a vet from Hythe, near Southampton, who specialises in suchsurgery.

Christopher Milsom, manager of the sanctuary, said yesterday that it was believed to be the first time such an operation had been performed on an eagle. Odin has had about 60 per cent of his sight restored and is tentatively learning to take off and land. "The problem is that it is very hard for a human to teach a bird how to fly," Mr Milsom said.

If he is eventually declared fully fit, he will be released in the wild in Africa.

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X11

Public kept waiting in legal disputes

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

INDIVIDUALS who take on the might of government departments by challenging official decisions in the courts are having to wait nearly two years for a hearing because of a record backlog in cases and a shortage of judges.

The congestion is delaying judicial review of decisions by public bodies or tribunals on matters such as housing, the environment, company takeovers, immigration and legal aid. Tonight about 200 members of the the Administrative Law Bar Association will meet in London to discuss the difficulties.

The courts have seen a huge growth from just over 500 applications for judicial review in 1980, to 918 in 1984, and to just under 2,500 last year. Cases not regarded as urgent can wait up to 22 months.

Last week a Law Commission consultation paper marked the first comprehensive public consultation on how judicial review, the fastest growing area of work for the courts since it was created in the seventies, is working.

Richard Gordon, a barrister and author of *Judicial Review Law and Procedure*, said delays were now as bad as in 1977 when judicial review was first introduced. At tonight's meeting, where he is the main speaker, he will float reforms including a new "public law" court specifically to deal with judicial review. "There are horrific delays for the hearing of these cases, which cannot disguise the fact of a shortage of judges," he said. "But other measures could ease the problem."

Mr Gordon's proposals also include limiting to 20 minutes the length of hearings at which individuals seek leave for judicial review, limiting the length of speeches by counsel, and not allowing government departments to contest many leave hearings.

The Law Commission has floated the idea of clear rights for pressure groups to seek judicial review. Some groups, such as the Child Poverty Action Group, have been given leave to go for judicial review but others, such as the Rose Theatre Trust, which wanted to preserve the theatre's remains, have not.

The commission also proposes powers for courts to put a temporary stop on any action by central government that is subject to a challenge. The Crown is immune from such action, although the power exists in disputes involving European law.

Kate Marcus of the Public Law Project says that there is an urgent need in particular to look at the lack of availability of expert advice in taking judicial review cases, including restrictions on legal aid.

The consultation paper invites comments by June 30.

Administrative Law: Judicial Review and Statutory Appeals. Consultation paper No 126 (Stationery Office; £8.95)

Patients to tune in for dial-an-op

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A HOSPITAL is to advertise its spare surgical beds on a breakfast radio show to patients waiting for operations.

Patients who wish to cut the waiting period at Queen Mary's Hospital in Sidcup, Kent, which ranges between a year and 18 months for non-urgent conditions, can listen to the radio and phone in if beds are free. Those who dial first will be given their operations on the same day.

"It is unfortunate we have to do it on a first come, first served basis but it is the only way," John Fahy, Queen Mary's bed manager, said.

The hospital is to introduce the scheme next week to fill beds which become free as a result of last minute cancellations. The aim is to improve efficiency and make maximum use of surgeons' time. Operating theatres are often left idle when patients expected for surgery fail to turn up.

Vacant beds will be advertised between 7.15am and 8.15am daily on Radio Thamesmead. Only patients already on the waiting list will be accepted and treatment will be limited to simple surgery such as varicose veins, hernias and ingrowing toenails.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Army pair accused of bullying

An army officer and an NCO are to be court martialled on charges of bullying recruits at Whittington Barracks, Staffordshire. The charges result from a four-month investigation into alleged ill-treatment.

The army said that a second NCO had been reprimanded and a third had been cleared. The enquiry began after claims that soldiers aged 16 to 18 were sexually abused, deprived of sleep and beaten during basic training.

Burns death

Henry Buck, 72, of Banstead, Surrey, died after being badly burnt when sparks from a knife-grinding machine ignited petrol on his clothing. The Westminster coroner recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Marital rape

A man aged 39 was jailed for two and a half years by Maidstone Crown Court after admitting raping his wife in a drunken attack at their home in Greenhithe, Kent.

Ban urged

Four out of five Teletext viewers who responded to a telephone survey favoured banning smoking at work. Almost 8,000 calls were received.

Game plan

Malibu Interactive, a Californian video game maker that believes British designers are the best, is moving to Derby and plans to create 40 jobs.

هكذا من الأصل

History tests with cartoons accused of low standards

Traditionalists doubt that drawing pictures and filling in speech bubbles is the right way to test seven-year-olds

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

THE simmering row between traditionalists and progressives about the teaching of history is likely to be brought to the boil by new tests for seven-year-olds this spring.

Up to 600,000 pupils may face questions such as what might Guy Fawkes have said when asked why he tried to blow up Parliament; were Florence Nightingale, Jemima Nicholas and Cinderella real people; and why have cooks abandoned coal ranges for gas and electric hobs?

John Major has warned that history could be the next subject on the national curriculum to be revised. He said in October he was not prepared to tolerate "insidious attack" on such an important subject.

Materials for the new tests were distributed to more than 24,000 primary schools in England and Wales last month. They are optional this year but the School Examinations and Assessment Council (Seac) expects teachers to use them in drawing up their annual marks for children's progress, which schools are required to give to parents.

The tests will require children to write in "speech bubbles" how famous historical figures might explain their actions, and draw cartoon-style pictures to show they understand the sequence of an historical event and to illustrate changes in people's lives between two periods.

Chris McGovern, a member of Seac's history committee, said the tests could lower standards. "They will not assess children's knowledge of history. They will undermine the achievement of older children by rewarding younger children too easily against the national curriculum."

But Gavin Graveson, Seac director of primary programmes, said the tests had been piloted in many schools during the past 18 months and gained almost universal approval. John Patten, the education secretary, had approved the tests. "The fact is these materials reflect the national curriculum for history. The standard assessment tasks do what the national curriculum expects teachers to have been teaching," Mr Graveson said.

Seven-year-old pupils also face compulsory national curriculum tests in English, mathematics and science before the end of the summer term. Details of the first geography tests will be announced next week.

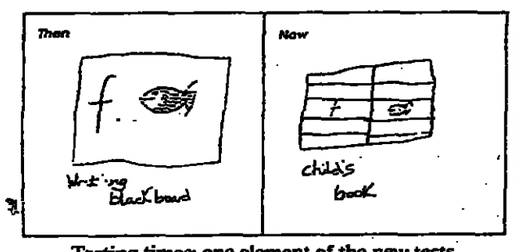
The history tests, devised by the National Foundation for Educational Research, follow four themes: history from stories; from photographs; from objects; and change in history. Teachers must judge pupils in 19 areas of study, assessing their knowledge and understanding, interpretation of history and use of historical sources.

Penelope Taylor, assistant secretary for primary education at the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, said that many teachers were concerned about the time needed to conduct the tests and that they could encourage "superficial teaching".

A teacher with a class of 36 would have to make about 261 assessments in total. "One does not want to say these tests are a load of rubbish because that is not true. Schools will have to work out for themselves whether they have the time to take them, and they probably will not," Ms Taylor said.

Pat Partington, vice-president of the National Association of Head Teachers, praised the tests for "giving teachers greater flexibility and help" to interpret the national curriculum.





Testing times: one element of the new tests involves history from photographs. Below is an example of an acceptable answer on the difference between the classroom above and one today

Troubled schools top inspection list

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SOME of the past year's troubled state schools will be among the first to be given full independent inspections, the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) announced yesterday.

Stratford School, in east London, and Slough and Eton School, Berkshire, were included on a list of 400 schools to be inspected in the autumn term. Both hit the headlines last year over disputes with racial overtones.

The first schools to be visited will include up to 25 in the secondary sector causing concern to inspectors. Although those schools have been notified by Ofsted, they are not being identified publicly. Others were still unaware yesterday that they were to be inspected.

At Slough and Eton, Ray Hadfield, the acting head teacher, said: "I have certainly not received any letter from Ofsted, but I would have no objection to an inspection if I was staying. If we have any faults, I would like them to be pointed out so that we can deal with them."

Other schools causing concern to inspectors have welcomed the opportunity to clear their names. Michael Marland, head teacher of North Westminster Community School, said: "There was some concern, which I shared, in a partial inspection two years ago, about our management structure. We think we have solved that, and the school will benefit from a thorough study by specialised outsiders."

The schools will be assessed before Christmas by teams of independent inspectors, including some lay members. About 900 schools will be inspected in the first year of the new system. Each of England's 24,000 schools must be visited every four years.

CHRIS HARRIS



Mistress of moves: Judit Polgar, grandmaster

Mentors who inspire the young chess geniuses

Father grooms a queen

FROM GERARD DAVIES IN BUDAPEST

THE author of *How To Create A Genius* yesterday watched his 16-year-old daughter take on the former chess champion Boris Spassky in a rehearsal for a meeting with Nigel Short, the Briton who won the right to challenge for the world chess championship on Saturday.

Laszlo Polgar, 47, a former teacher and himself a mediocre player, taught his three daughters chess when they were four years old.

Judit Polgar won her first international tournament at the age of eight and became an international master three years later. Now she is the youngest grandmaster in the world and one of only two women to earn the title of male grandmaster. The other is her 23-year-old sister, Susan.

Polgar will win $120,000 (£82,200) if she beats Spassky.

Brooding guru turns Short into tough mental warrior

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

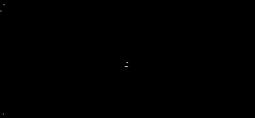
NIGEL Short's *éminence gris*, to be found at his right hand as he prepares for his world championship against Gary Kasparov, is the wily old Czech fox, grandmaster Lubosh Kavalek. He is widely credited with providing the boost to Short's play over the past two years.

Under Kavalek's tutelage, a newly-found mental toughness, combined with insights into the psychological weaknesses of his opponents, have characterised the British grandmaster's streak of victories in the world championship cycle. Kavalek has taught Short not only how to survive at the highest level of cerebral combat, but also how to become the best.

No contender at the top of chess can succeed without a second or assistant and Short is no exception. But while Soviet champions tended to turn up with several sections of the KGB masquerading as doctors, analysts, masseurs, psychologists and chefs, Short has placed his faith in a lone guru.

Obviously not permitted to intervene or comment during the course of a game, Kavalek is free to offer advice or assistance when the play is over, or before it starts.

Kavalek — or Lubosh, as he is generally known — surfaced in the Short camp at the opening stage of the current championship cycle, the Manila interzonal of 1990. Since then, the two have been inseparable. In the championship qualifying contest it was Kavalek who identified that Timman lacked any sense of danger — a fault mercilessly exploited by Short.



Kavalek: bringing out the best in Short

In the past Short was criticised for an owlish, academic approach to the fierce realities of chess combat, but Kavalek has changed all that. He is now the most vicious mind warrior in the game, apart from Kasparov himself, and always at his most dangerous after a defeat, as Timman found to his cost.

Kavalek is a brooding, almost sinister presence, planning the downfall of some future adversary of Short's. Born in Prague in 1943, Kavalek emigrated to the US after the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and won the US championship three times. Thereafter, he sported a black armband whenever he played the Russians.

In case you missed the celebration, Nigel Short has just become the first Briton this century to qualify for the final of the World Chess Championship. That's quite a performance, even for one of our investments.

Eagle Star has sponsored Nigel's training for three years now and in some small way we like to think we've helped him get where he is today.

And our ability to spot a good investment doesn't stop at chess grandmasters.

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If you would like more information about Eagle Star investments please contact your Financial Adviser.

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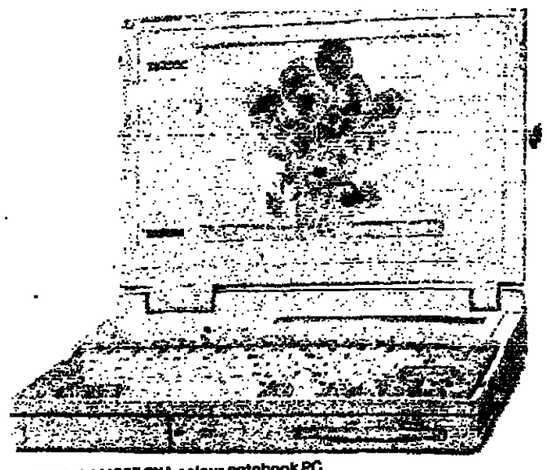
Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. The value of investments can fluctuate and is not guaranteed. Eagle Star is a marketing group consisting of members of LAUTRO and IMRO.

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Is the Post Office a good candidate for privatisation?

The Queen's approval for selling the Royal Mail has raised questions about the possible sale of all Post Office services

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

Will the Post Office be privatised? The government is in the final stages of a review, announced last year, of the future of the Post Office, centred on the idea of privatising it. The government has already declared its intention to privatise Parcelforce, the PO's parcel-carrying division. Given the Conservatives' long-standing commitment to privatisation, the review is expected to endorse the move, although the difficulties the government has got into over privatising British Rail and the future of the coal industry in advance of privatisation may make ministers wary of tackling another large-scale privatisation.

When would it be privatised? Though ministers believe Parcelforce can be privatised under current laws, privatisation of the full PO would require fresh legislation. A likely legislative timetable running from November, including the actual sale of the PO, could take up to three years, bringing PO privatisation uncomfortably close to the next general election.

How would it be privatised? The review is examining a number of options, including a full flotation of the PO as it stands. While some believe competition would be increased if the PO were broken up into its constituent parts, Whitehall and senior PO officials are believed to favour a full flotation: it would generate money for the Treasury at a time when public spending is under strain, it could be put to the public most easily in a BT-style share sale, and it would most easily maintain the post-privatisation service guarantees to which the government is committed.

What guarantees? Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, has given three commitments: there will be a nationwide letter service; there will be a "uniform and affordable" structure of prices; and there will be a nationwide network of post offices. That would mean creating a regulatory body.

Will privatisation of the PO be opposed? Yes. The PO is highly-productive, non-subsidised, profitable and popular, so Labour and the unions will argue that there are no grounds on efficiency or profitability for privatisation. But given the PO's record pre-tax profits of £135 million in the half-year to last September, there is likely to be plenty of interest in the City.

Some of the government's supporters may also be uneasy. PO services are especially important in rural areas, which are largely Conservative constituencies.

Would services be better after privatisation? Ministers are clearly not dissatisfied with standards in the PO now. Opponents of PO privatisation argue that standards will decline sharply, especially in areas that are hard to service, such as rural communities.

Will prices go up or come down? The PO has already suggested that its monopoly on all mail below a certain price, at present £1, could be reduced to 50p, although Whitehall is being more cautious, suggesting a monopoly cut-off of 75p. This could increase competition. Parcel prices might well be higher if VAT exemption is lost.

Is the PO in favour of privatisation? Publicly, the PO under its new chairman, Mike Heron, is neutral: it says it will do what ministers decide. Privately, the PO wants to be freed from public spending constraints.

Royal approval: page 1
Leading article, page 17

Service bears the stamp of history

BY ALAN HAMILTON

PHILATELISTS drew a sharp intake of breath yesterday at the thought of the Royal Mail becoming British Postal Deliveries plc. Britain would, they pointed out with disbelief, be the only country in the world where the postal system was not in the hands of the government or a state-controlled national corporation.

As the Royal Mail is conducted in her name, the Queen's consent would be required for its privatisation. Buckingham Palace has let it be known that the Queen would act on the advice of her ministers and not stand in the way of any proposal.

The palace, however, emphasised that while the Queen was being kept informed of possible changes in the postal service, she had not yet been asked to give her assent to the surrender of her cipher on pillar boxes and mail vans.

Nevertheless, the move is significant. Even Margaret Thatcher, the greatest privatising premier of them all, drew back from the thought of selling off to the private sector a postal service with the royal appellation, for fear of upsetting the sovereign. Her successor appears to have fewer inhibitions.

The mail was once the preserve of the monarch alone, but in 1635 Charles I, in a rare populist gesture, opened up the mail service to the public.

Since the Penny Black, the world's first adhesive postage stamp for general use, appeared in 1840, no British stamp, whether of definitive or purely decorative issue, has appeared without the monarch's head somewhere in the design. According to the rules of the Universal Postal Union, it is a trade-off for Britain being the only nation that need not put its name on its stamps.

The way it isn't

CRAIG BROWN



Baroness Thatcher's A-Z of Great Names in History

A is for King Arthur, who put Britain first
B is for Beethoven — German, but not the worst
C is for Churchill, definitely one of us
D is for Danton, who caused endless fuss
E is for Elgin, who bated for Britain
F is for King Faisal, an absolute kitten
G is for Gandhi, a stranger to M & S
H is for Heseltine, blame him for the mess
I is for Ingham, that most faithful of coves
J is for Jesus, over-liberal with loaves
K is for Kipling, a poet, but sensible
L is for Lawson, quite reprehensible
M is for Mother Teresa, and her dependency culture
N is for Napoleon, French, and a vulture
O is for Oliver, no, you can't have some more
P is for Peron, who cared for the poor
Q is for Queen Elizabeth I, who reminds me of me,
R is for Robespierre, typically EC
S is for Shakespeare, British from head to toe
T is for Mark Thatcher, with his get up and go
U is for Uccello, unashamedly Italian
V is for Voltaire, French rapscallion
W is for Worsthorne, a journalist, but solid
X is for Deng Xiaoping, velly, velly hollid
Y is for Your Majesty, and the national anthem
Z is for Zeus, who I rather think hails from Grantham.

New man at Yard promises more officers on the beat



CHRIS HARRIS

Dawn raid on the Met: Condon wants to see a quicker and more courteous response to people in need

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

PAUL Condon arrived at Scotland Yard with the dawn yesterday to take up his new job as commissioner of the Metropolitan police. At 45, he is one of the youngest commissioners the London force has had and promises better detection, more men on the beat and a more courteous response to people in need.

At 8.30am today, Mr Condon meets his most senior officers at the beginning of what promises to be a robust seven years as the most powerful operational policeman in Britain.

Yesterday, he described his aims as improving the safety and security of Londoners, improving the quality of life as far as policing could affect it and increasing confidence in his force. He outlined a five-point plan for improving policing which would provide better detection of crime, higher ethical standards, faster responses to 999 calls, more officers on patrol at times and in places which reassure the public, and greater care for victims.

His term as commissioner is certain to mean that more officers will be moved from Scotland Yard back to the beat and many London officers will face greater monitoring of their performance. There will be more independence for local officers.

Mr Condon, the former chief constable of Kent, pointed to the need for a better service to the public. "It is no good police officers turning up quickly if they are rude or under pressure or have not got the time to spare for the people who asked for help," he said. He would expect courtesy and care.

There will be no compromise on the integrity of his force, Mr Condon said. Asked about reports of a crisis of morale because of difficulties in prosecuting criminals, Mr Condon, who has spent much of his career in London, said that throughout his 26 years as a policeman there had always been claims of a crisis of morale.

He said the standard of police officers was the highest it had been but they faced a tough job. He hoped the royal commission on criminal justice would provide some answers to questions about the legal system. However, there were no overnight answers to crime, violence or morale.



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MPs' report rebukes Bank over BCCI

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Commons Treasury committee will be asked to sanction a report next week strongly rebuking Robin Leigh-Pemberton and his officials at the Bank of England over their handling of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

The draft report criticises the governor's failure to sack or discipline any of his officials for failures, identified by the Bingham report, in supervising BCCI.

Such a censure is potentially embarrassing for Eddie George, the governor-designate, who had overall responsibility for the Bank of England's supervisory role at the time of the collapse, and also for Brian Quinn, the executive director with responsibility for banking supervision.

Signs emerged yesterday of a political tussle between the Treasury committee's MPs about the strength of the criticism and whether the governor should be personally censured in their report.

Giles Radice, the senior Labour MP on the cross-party committee of 11, drafted the report after John Watts, the Conservative chairman, stood down from the enquiry because his accountancy practice deals with a client who suffered losses when BCCI collapsed.

Mr Watts's absence has deprived the committee of its usual Tory majority, leaving the remaining MPs sharply divided down party lines.

Mr Radice has told committee members he wants a unanimous report which will carry more weight with the government. However, his Labour colleagues appear determined to resist all attempts by Tory members to water down his draft.

When Mr Leigh-Pemberton, Mr George and Mr Quinn gave evidence last November, the MPs repeatedly questioned them on Lord Justice Bingham's damning criticisms of the Bank of England's supervision of BCCI.

During the hearing the Bank's style of supervision was described by MPs as being "passive and timid". Mr Leigh-Pemberton insisted that the Bank of England had "a good record" in exercising its supervisory powers.

The governor was persistently asked why he and senior colleagues, including Mr George who succeeds him in June, did not resign in the wake of the Bingham report.

Yesterday one committee member said: "We were all pretty shocked at the cavalier attitude of the Bank." Another commented that, at the hearing, Mr Leigh-Pemberton had appeared "amazingly complacent."

In contrast, one Conservative MP said that the committee's enquiry had been overtaken by Lord Justice Bingham's report and indicated that he would not sign a committee report which censured Mr Leigh-Pemberton and his officials.

Mr Radice's draft report is also understood to demand that the government compensate investors who lost their money when BCCI collapsed. The level of compensation, it suggests, should reflect the Bank's of England's failure to step in earlier and close down BCCI.

The Treasury committee, when Terence Higgins was chairman, held two previous enquiries into the BCCI affair. The recommendations in both, to the anger of Labour MPs such as Brian Sedgemore, were low-key because the committee did not want to prejudge Lord Justice Bingham's enquiry.

One report focused on the role of money brokers and the massive investments by some local authorities in BCCI. The second dealt with the wider implications of national and international banking supervision.

Labour plans to warm Britain

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

LABOUR would double-glaze homes throughout Britain as part of an energy conservation programme which it claims would create 50,000 new jobs. Electricity and gas companies would pay for the work, and then recover the cost through higher bills to those consumers who benefit.

Launching the progamme yesterday, Labour claimed that the costs of improving household energy efficiency, estimated at about £1 billion a year, would be offset by long-term savings through reduced fuel consumption.

Electricity and gas companies will be told to install double-glazing, cavity wall insulation and energy conservation appliances. Households would be offered three options for improving energy efficiency.

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☐ A £750 scheme incorporating the basic programme and cavity wall insulation.

☐ A £1,500 programme including basic standard double-glazing and the other options.

Households selecting the cheapest package would pay 8 per cent more for gas or electricity; those with cavity wall insulation would pay 15 per cent more; and those with double glazing would be charged 25 per cent extra.

Labour estimates that an average household which adopted the full package would save £156 a year.

Within the first 18 months of the scheme, Labour predicts that 50,000 permanent jobs would be created by installing energy-saving products in up to 500,000 homes each year.

The plans unveiled by Chris Smith, the shadow environment secretary, are the result of Labour's frustration that regulators have exerted insufficient pressure to promote energy efficiency.



Double act: Clare Short and Chris Smith announcing a programme to double-glaze the nation yesterday

AROUND THE LOBBY

EC service ruled out

Claims that the Maastricht treaty could force British citizens to be conscripted into a European army were categorically ruled out last night. Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, said that such arguments might have fooled a few gullible Danes into voting against the treaty, but had no place in the Commons. On the tenth day of detailed discussion of the bill to ratify the treaty, Labour and Tory front benches were united in their support for the provision extending European citizenship to all British subjects.

Refugee watch

Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, will head an ad hoc cabinet committee to review policy on Bosnian refugees, the prime minister said in a written reply. A new standing cabinet committee headed by the Chancellor will consider public spending allocations.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: education; prime minister. Railways bill, second reading. Lords (2.30): Welsh lanuage bill, committee, first day.

Scapegoat Lamont pays the price for Major's decisions

The financial markets are not alone in lacking confidence in government economic policy. Few Tory MPs have a good word to say for it either.

Whitehall officials did their best yesterday to offer reassurance. Interest rates are not about to be reduced again, and possibly not even in the March 16 Budget. But that was just a holding operation to shore up sterling. Confidence will not be restored until there is a new Chancellor and the government resolves contradictions in its economic strategy.

Norman Lamont is fast running out of time, and supporters. Few at Westminster expect him to last more than five or six months at most, until the expected mid-year cabinet reshuffle. Many Tory MPs would like him to leave the Treasury sooner. Mr Lamont has become the scapegoat for the recession, for errors which originated in Mr Major's decision as Chancellor to take Britain into the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) in October 1990. Mr Lamont has in many ways been an innovative Chancellor: on tax reform, on the long overdue unification of the tax and spending sides of the Budget, on throwing more light on monetary policy and on setting up the new panel of outside forecasters.

The increasingly apparent shift in monetary policy since the withdrawal from the ERM in mid-September has, however, undermined his credibility. What Mr Lamont and his officials previously ruled out has occurred. His comments have therefore lacked conviction, for all the resilience of his Autumn Statement. He has had the further embarassment of publicity over his personal affairs.

Questions have inevitably arisen about who is directing strategy. That is why the suggestion in *The Sunday Times* — later strenuously denied — that the prime minister had taken control of economic policy away from the Treasury touched such a raw nerve. In one sense, control of the Budget is bound to remain in the hands of the Chancellor. Interest rates are not cut, or taxes changed, unless the Chancellor agrees.

What matters, however, is the strategic direction. That is where the prime minister and his officials are active, and have been for several months. It was Mr Major who publicly signalled the switch to a "strategy for growth" last October. The Treasury spent the following few weeks catching up.

What is so damaging now to Mr Lamont and the Treasury are suggestions of divisions over monetary and fiscal policy. The push for lower interest rates has come from 10 Downing Street in the face of the instinctive caution of the Treasury and particularly the Bank of England. Mr Lamont has been talking to Tory MPs about the need for further action to tackle the sharp rise in public borrowing, while Mr Major has played down the problem. His advisers have argued against big tax rises in the Budget.

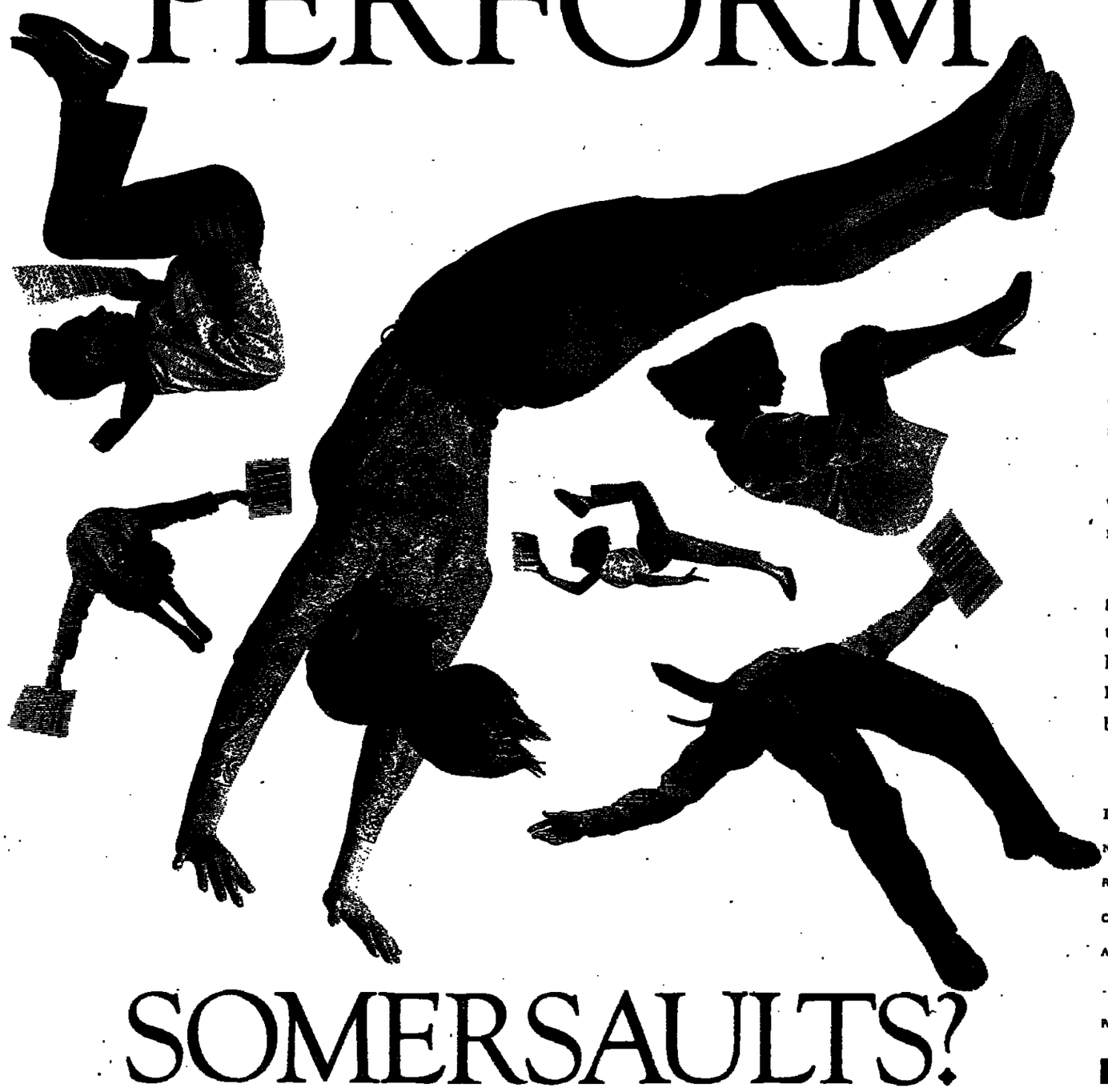
However, if the prime minister is concerned above all with growth, via lower interest rates, what does that mean for sterling and the inflation target? Yesterday's official briefings were intended to show there is not a policy of benign neglect on sterling. But doubts remain, especially since any decision on re-entry into the ERM has now been postponed into the indefinite future, probably after the next election. Moreover, no one knows how the government will tackle the Budget deficit.

All this is a reminder that the events of September 16 were not just a temporary blip. The price is still being paid, economically and politically, as Mr Lamont will probably discover in a few months.

PETER RIDDELL

Leading article, page 17

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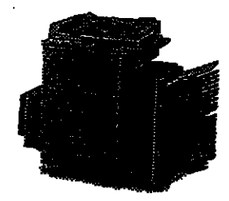
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Fate of Europe's 13-year monetary experiment hangs on fragile partnership

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

■ If the exchange-rate mechanism collapses, hopes of European union under the Maastricht treaty may fall with it

The future not only of the European exchange-rate mechanism but also of the Maastricht treaty now rests on the strained and fragile link between the deutschmark and the French franc. Indeed, buffeted by the weekend's Irish devaluation and nervous of fresh attacks on other vulnerable currencies, the the European Community's monetary system is rapidly becoming an exchange-rate partnership.

If money dealers, economic divergence and two months' election campaigning in France break the exchange rate parity between the two neighbouring currencies, Europe's 13-year monetary experiment will die. In the ensuing chaos, Paris would seek other ways of reasserting some control over the dominant German central bank. An accelerated dash to a single currency would almost certainly take France, Germany and several other economies outside the terms of the Maastricht treaty, which state that final decisions on monetary union are not due until 1996. Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, has recently murmured that events might force them in 1994.

The monetary fiascos of the past five months have driven home the lesson that dreams of monetary union are expensive. Countries are divided against each other: Dick Spring, Ireland's foreign minister, yesterday accused his EC colleagues of betraying his country in its hour of need. Enforced economic convergence costs jobs. "We're all a lot less innocent than we used to be because of this crisis," one Community economic official said.

The string of devaluations does not make the break of the Franco-German link inevitable: failure would cost Paris and Bonn dear. Because French politicians have been prepared to put up with economic misery and the Bundesbank ready to spend billions of marks supporting the franc, currency dealers have tried twice to break the link and so far have failed.

But this defence of the EC's Franco-German axis — which may cost yet more billions of marks and francs — has preserved the ERM at the cost of making it almost unrecognisable. In the late 1980s, EC leaders changed a loose system for coping with currency fluctuations into a rigorous exchange-rate grid intended as a dress rehearsal for monetary union. The Maastricht treaty, although allowing for two-speed monetary union, maintains the fiction that all 12 EC states could qualify to join a single currency.

But the forced devaluation of four currencies within the ERM and the forced departure of two in recent months has turned the Community's system for 12 states into something which exists for only two. Michel Sapin, the French finance minister, declared yesterday: "The franc, and I say this with great respect for the Irish punt ... is not the Irish currency. France is not Ireland. France is a country fundamental to the construction of Europe. Behind the franc, it is Europe that is being attacked."

The fury of Irish ministers is understandable. The Bundesbank, prepared to intervene to support the French franc before it hit its ERM "floor", extended no such extra help to the floundering punt and restricted its interventions to what the rules required. Europe's smaller states are beginning to see that "monetary union" in fact dismisses those countries not "fundamental to the construction of Europe".

Monetary union remains an essentially political project driven by France's desire to gain some mastery — any mastery — over the German economy. Maastricht gave France the appearance of extra leverage over the Bundesbank but the text laid down that monetary union would be run on German terms. The Bundestag has dismissed any idea that the treaty should make a single currency "irreversible" and insisted on having its own say at the last moment. French ministers still prefer this meagre degree of control to the less dignified membership of a deutschmark zone which they will have to accept if the ERM and Maastricht fall apart. Paris and Bonn would prefer to keep the battered ERM and continue the pretence that the Maastricht schedule for the single currency still works. If events upset their plans, they will seek new ties between their central banks and economies. The French will seek them desperately as the Germans, for the moment at least, will reluctantly agree.

French fight off new threat from currency speculators

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS AND MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

FRANC-DEUTSCHMARK LINK

DEFIANT talk from the French government helped to stave off any new speculative attack on the franc yesterday, although dissident politicians and many in the business world continued to agitate for a break in the currency's sacrosanct link with the deutschmark.

Germany made it plain that it remains fully committed to the European exchange-rate mechanism, but in a frank admission of the growing tension between the government and the Bundesbank over economic policy, a senior government official called for a change in Germany's high interest rates.

In Paris Michel Sapin, the finance minister, repeated the government's determination to preserve the parity which now stands as the last rampart of the European Monetary System. "There is no economic reason to devalue the franc," he said. "If it is attacked we will fight back, with the same determination and the same methods as the last time. Behind the franc, it is Europe that is being attacked." France spent 160 billion francs defending the currency with the help of Germany in September, and almost as much again early this month.

The franc closed in Paris last night at 3.38 to the mark, slightly higher than last Friday, before the devaluation of the Irish punt and the spate of talk about new pressure on the franc. Dealers said that this could represent a calm before the storm.

France also supported a suggestion by Jacques Delors, the European Commission president, for an early meeting of leaders of the seven leading industrialised nations to discuss strategy for relaunching the world economy.

M Sapin made few friends in Britain and Ireland by noting that "France is not Ireland. France is a country fundamental to the construction of Europe." He accused Britain of following a policy of "every man for himself". The charge has been frequently levelled by French leaders against Britain in the months since it pulled out of the ERM, and particularly over the past week since Scotland persuaded the Hoover company to transfer its vacuum cleaner production from Dijon.

Roland Dumas, the foreign minister, used the EC's first televised debate over the Hoover move. "Employment will not be preserved by outbidding each other in the area of aid — by unfair competitive practices," he said.

Though few in the business and political world doubt the determination of Pierre Bérégovoy, the French prime minister, to resist devaluation, many believe the economy is suffering heavily from the iron link with the mark and that a new, conservative, government could opt for a realignment after elections in late March.

In a survey last month, 71 per cent of French company bosses said they hoped that a new government would abandon the "franc fort" policy in favour of lower interest rates.

German pressure for an interest rate cut came yesterday from Horst Köhler, state secretary at the finance ministry and the chancellor's personal adviser on monetary matters. Herr Köhler said in an interview that lower interest rates would relieve the economy, encourage the construction industry and hold down rent increases, which were an important cause of inflation.

However, he said the Bundesbank was independent, and the government was not putting pressure on it. "The Bundesbank's credibility is a capital asset which we cannot risk in these difficult times." He admitted that Germany was having "serious" discussions with its partners about interest rates, which he called a problem for many countries in the EMS. But they had no interest in seeing the mark, an anchor of the system, being weakened. A collapse of the EMS would be a "great setback" for Europe.

The Bundesbank is coming under fierce pressure, however, not only from abroad but also from the states, especially in eastern Germany, which are labouring under the growing recession and which want a cut in interest rates as soon as possible. Erwin Teufel, the prime minister of Baden-Württemberg, which is hard hit by recession, has written to Helmut Kohl, the chancellor. He said he had heard the Bundesbank was "ready to do its bit" — a hint that it might announce a slight reduction of interest rates at its fortnightly meeting on Thursday.

The Bundesbank will not cut rates as long as the danger of inflation remains, and that danger will not pass until Herr Kohl's government is able to reduce government spending. The chancellor appears increasingly vexed by his failure to win acceptance for the austerity measures in the proposed "solidarity pact". He said at the weekend that Germany had been living beyond its means, and that most of the problems it now faced would have arisen even without the costs of reunification.

The new turbulence, following the devaluation of the Irish punt, puts more pressure on Bonn. The Bundesbank cannot intervene on political grounds: it defended the last support of the franc on the grounds that the currency was properly valued according to France's economic indicators; it could only argue however that Ireland, which is closely dependent on exports to Britain, could not keep the punt at such a high rate against sterling. Yesterday the German government was saying little about any possible further intervention to help the French franc; such decisions have to be made independently in Frankfurt, and they must be seen to be independent.

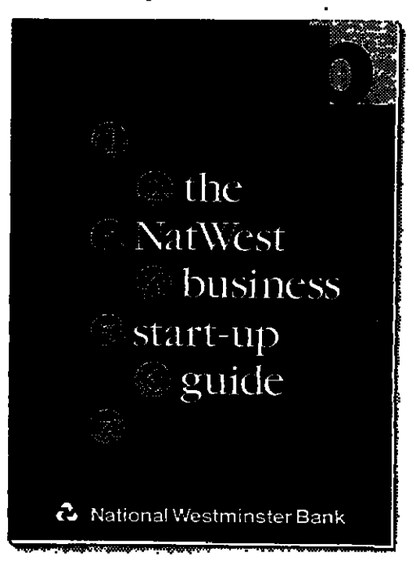


Buying time: Jacques Delors with Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, in Brussels yesterday

Nicholas Ridley, pae 16
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EC urged to defend exchange rates

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

IRISH PUNT

DICK Spring, the Irish foreign minister, yesterday called for an urgent review of the European exchange-rate mechanism in the wake of Ireland's 10 per cent devaluation of the punt at the weekend.

Addressing European Community foreign ministers in Brussels, Mr Spring said that immediate action was necessary to avoid further attacks on healthy economies which would undermine the Community's solidarity.

He said member states must do more to defend constituent exchange rates within the ERM or else national currencies would be picked off one by one.

This fate had befallen the Irish punt despite the fundamental strengths of the republic's economy, which has low inflation, a substantial balance of payments surplus and a public sector borrowing requirement within permitted limits.

Mr Spring's comments came as the Irish central bank followed the weekend devaluation by cutting its overnight interest rates from 100 per cent to 14 per cent. On the Dublin stock market, shares jumped by almost 5 per cent in one of the biggest rises seen for more than five years.

Companies benefiting most from the realignment of the punt — which was trading at around £1.03 against sterling compared to £1.09 on Friday — were those in the food industry as well as banks and other businesses which are heavily reliant on export earnings.

However, underlying the obvious sense of relief in Irish commercial circles after an extremely expensive five-month battle to stave off what many saw as the inevitable, there was still considerable nervousness about the fate of sterling.

Brendan Walsh, professor of economics at University College, Dublin, said that there was a danger that the Irish government had done too little too late, adding that the weakness of sterling remained a serious worry.

"Whether we like it or not the events of the last six months have shown that we are still financially and economically linked to the United Kingdom to a greater degree than we would have liked, and given the instability of economic policy in the UK, that is a pain in the neck. But what can we do? We can't just wish it away."

Professor Walsh said he believed it was possible that the Irish authorities would find themselves forced into another devaluation if the pound continued to fall.

Other analysts took a more optimistic view. "If there was a doubt about the currency being over- or under-valued before, there's no debate now. It has clearly been devalued to the point whereby it's fine."



Spring: calling for an urgent review of ERM

The currency crisis continued against a distinctly muted political backdrop, with few politicians contributing to the debate. This reflects the more or less united front achieved by Albert Reynolds, the prime minister, in support of the battle against devaluation and the acceptance that, faced with further rises in interest rates, the government had no choice but to capitulate when it did.

Yesterday Mr Reynolds refused to discuss the matter when questioned by reporters on his way back to Dublin after a private visit to London.

Des O'Malley, the leader of the Progressive Democrats who was the republic's minister for industry and commerce in the last government, said last night he was very doubtful if Ireland had put an end to its currency difficulties.

Mr O'Malley, who has long argued that the government should have concentrated on reducing costs in Irish industry, said it seemed that a general reduction in interest rates would not now follow the devaluation, which in any case he believes should have taken place.

Denmark acts to head off money men

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

DANISH KRONE

ANALYSTS here said yesterday that the Danish currency could be headed for a turbulent spring in the run-up to a new referendum on the Maastricht treaty, despite the firm commitment of Denmark's week-old Social Democrat-led centre-left government to the fixed exchange rate and a successful central bank intervention in support of the krone.

The 10 per cent devaluation of the Irish punt at the weekend has made the Danish krone the likely next target for European currency speculators, market analysts predicted.

But even as it positioned itself as the weakest of the currencies in the exchange-rate mechanism, the krone was by early afternoon firmer than last Friday as a widely expected assault against it failed to materialise. At the end of trading, the krone had slipped marginally to 3.860 to the German mark, compared with Friday's 3.850 closing rate.

"There is no comparison between the Irish and Danish situations," said Erik Hoffmeyer, the Danish Central Bank governor, emphasising that there was no economic basis for speculation against the krone.

"Ireland has had major problems after its biggest trading partner, Britain, left the ERM last September," Mr Hoffmeyer said.

Currency analysts said the fate of the krone and the French franc — the other remaining target of speculation — would probably be decided in connection with France's parliamentary elections in late March and Denmark's upcoming Maastricht vote.

"I think we will see calm markets in the short term. But the pressure will probably return ahead of the French elections and the next Danish Maastricht referendum," said Hardy Larsen, vice-director at Denmark's Unibank, the country's second largest bank.

The second Danish vote on Maastricht will probably take place in May and all opinion polls point towards a "yes" vote.

In the meantime, some analysts said, speculators might be encouraged by similar trends in the Irish and Danish economies: low inflation, a solid balance of payments surplus but with high unemployment aggravated by devaluations among trade partners. The Federation of Danish Industries estimates that effective devaluations in the past five months Britain, Sweden, Norway, Italy, Finland, Spain, Portugal and Ireland have weakened Denmark's export competitiveness by between 6 and 7 percent. These countries compute about one-third of the Irish export market.

"It is correct that Denmark's export competitiveness has been diminished ... but the Danish economy is fundamentally very strong," said Marianne Jelved, the new minister of the economy, vowing to defend the krone with all possible means.

"We can win back any lost competitiveness if we keep wage increases down in the present labour market collective bargaining negotiations," she added.

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Serb Tigers join hill fight to halt advancing Croats

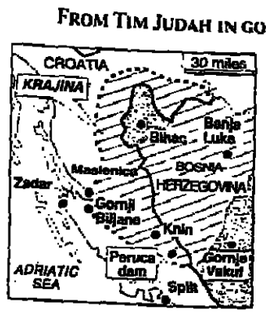
FROM TIM JUDAH IN GORNJE BILJANE, CROATIA

THE sky above the Adriatic coast darkened again yesterday after a weekend lull as Serb and Croat forces fought pitched artillery and tank duels in the hills running up from the sea.

From forward Serb positions, columns of smoke could be seen rising above the battlefield, tanks raced down tiny country lanes, and clouds of dust exploded as Croat shells fell short of Serb positions.

General Mile Novakovic, commander-in-chief of the Serb forces, said that the Croatian army had launched a two-pronged attack yesterday morning aimed at the town of Benkovac. However, Croatian radio alleged that Serb forces had started a counter-offensive to recapture land that was lost in the recent Croatian offensive.

From the village of Gornje Biljane, 18 miles east of Zadar and eight miles northwest of Benkovac, the Adriatic could be seen glistening in the distance. Serb artillery pounded the Croats in land newly retaken by them, and many of the frontline soldiers were shelling their own villages from which they were driven ten days ago. "We didn't have a chance," said Rade Uzelac, 42, from Islam Grcki. "A year ago, we were disarmed by the United Nations and when the Croats attacked we were asleep. We resisted for two hours with our automatics but then we had to run for it."



The rocky, sandy-coloured, scrub-covered hills that run down to the sea tremble as the artillery is fired. Men barely in proper uniforms have dug in to resist the Croatian advance that they know will mean death or exile if it cannot be checked. "We are answering their attacks — keep your mouth open," yelled a man as artillery and rockets were launched simultaneously. You keep your mouth open to save your eardrums.

In Kasici, barely five miles away, plumes of smoke curled into the crystal-clear winter sky. According to the local Serb soldiers, this was the result of their artillery. Having recovered from their initial shock, Serbs defending their enclave of Krajina seemed to have halted the Croatian advance. United Nations military observers can be seen busying about in the Krajina hinterland but the Kenyan soldiers have clearly been well advised to avoid even the gaze of Arkan's men.

They wear sunglasses, black woolly hats and their reputation precedes them. The "Tigers" are the militia of Zeljko Raznjatovic — *nom de guerre* Arkan — deputy in the Serbian parliament, a prominent name on all international lists of alleged war criminals of former Yugoslavia, and a hero to millions of Serbs. There are no reliable figures on how many of Arkan's men are fighting but, controlling traffic entering and leaving Benkovac, their presence is all too obvious. Help is coming from other quarters, too. General Ratko Mladic, the commander of Bosnian Serb forces, has been on a visit.

Artillery can be seen coming over the frontier into Krajina from Bosnian Serb territory, and Bosnian Serb soldiers are on the Gornje Biljane frontline. General Mladic was the Yugoslav army commander in Krajina in 1991 when his men helped the local Serbs hack their enclave from the body of Croatia.

The Yugoslav authorities say they see no need to get involved in Krajina but in the meantime their army officers are already here. Licking the locals into shape, Yugoslav officers who come from Krajina have been released from duty to fight for their ancestral homeland. "Someone has to lead us," shrugged a farmer turned soldier.

From her garden Ljubica Gagic, 75, can see the Adriatic. Other civilians from Gorjne Biljane have fled. "I'm not going anywhere," she says. "If I went, who would give water to the army?"

Spirit of Stalingrad invoked



Warrior woman: visitors heading yesterday towards a statue marking the crucial look-out point in the battle for the city 50 years ago

Yeltsin pleads for national unity

FROM CHRISTAN BURCKHARDT IN VOLGOGRAD

PRESIDENT Yeltsin said yesterday that Russia could triumph over hardship by drawing on the same fighting spirit that brought victory in the ruins of Stalingrad 50 years ago.

He said, marking the anniversary of the German capitulation at Stalingrad, that the battle, which claimed two million lives, turned the tide of the second world war "although at the time final victory seemed very, very far away".

"We find ourselves today at a similar turning point, a difficult moment in Russian history," he said, addressing a gathering in the city. "The difficulties, the deprivations, will be overcome and we will triumph because behind us is Stalingrad".

Like other Russian cities, Volgograd is suffering the hardships of the first year of market reforms under Mr Yeltsin. Families used to a secure, if relatively low, standard of living are wrestling for the first time with poverty. Many veterans see the collapse of the Soviet Union and Russia's turn to the West for help as a national humiliation.

Mr Yeltsin said Russia's prize for victory in today's battle would be economic recovery, freedom and a rebirth of authority in the world. "We will hold together in this work. Let faith in Russia's future and its strength of will help us, as they helped the defenders of Stalingrad."

Stalingrad was traditionally held up as proof of the monumental heroism of the "New Soviet Man". The theme is reflected in gargantuan Stalinist statues and memorials, including the towering Mother of the Nation, a statue of a woman holding out a sword to the invader. *(Reuter)*

☐ **Moscow:** Russians were faced with sharp price increases on airline tickets and utilities, Russian media reported yesterday.

Natural gas and airline tickets doubled in price. Monthly telephone service increased 150 per cent while calls to other countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States and abroad increased threefold. Under the Soviet regime, Russians spent less than 5 per cent of their salary on rent and utilities. *(AFP)*

Owen puts America on the spot

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

LORD Owen and Cyrus Vance yesterday headed for the United Nations headquarters in New York to seek the support of a divided Security Council for their peace plan for Bosnia.

The co-chairmen of the Yugoslav peace talks were scheduled to meet Warren Christopher, the new US Secretary of State, in a bid to enlist crucial American support for their plan to split Bosnia into ten provinces, largely along ethnic lines. Lord Owen and Mr Vance hope the security council will adopt the peace plan in a resolution, giving it the force of international law.

But a senior European diplomat on the council warned yesterday that America and the Muslim countries on the 15-nation council — Morocco, Pakistan and Djibouti — have serious reservations about the Vance-Owen plan because it appears to ratify the ethnic division of the former Yugoslav republic.

The diplomat said Lord Owen and Mr Vance were "going to have to be very convincing" if they were to line up the necessary support. However, Lord Owen and Mr Vance appear to have made little attempt to win American backing in advance. Their decision at the weekend to pack up the peace talks in Geneva and go to the security council took the Clinton administration by surprise.

The administration has promised to pursue a more aggressive approach on Bosnia. Lord Owen and Mr Vance have put the administration on the spot by seeking its support of the peace plan before it has concluded its review of policy on the former Yugoslavia.

Lord Owen said he would like to see America "putting their clout behind the peacekeeping in Bosnia", possibly by contributing troops to a UN operation to establish a cordon sanitaire around a demilitarised Sarajevo.

Germany seeks lifting of Bosnia arms embargo

■ *Germans favour military intervention in former Yugoslavia. Yet memories of world wars are a barrier to their own forces taking part*

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

GERMANY has begun a campaign to lift the international arms embargo on Bosnia-Herzegovina after the collapse of the Geneva peace talks. Bonn believes that the Muslims should be given the weapons to defend themselves.

Before meeting his European Community colleagues in Brussels yesterday, Klaus Kinkel, the foreign minister, told German radio that the EC and other countries should look again "when the time comes" at lifting the embargo.

His call follows a powerful plea at the weekend by Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, who said: "If we don't help them, we must at least give them a chance to defend themselves." He was supported by Volker Rühe, the defence minister, who told the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, that an arms balance had often brought previous wars to an end.

Germany's call may influence EC foreign ministers, as public opinion here is pushing the government towards support for outside intervention — although not by German forces. In response to the wave of repulsion over the mass rape of Muslim women and the camps in Bosnia, Herr Rühe pointed out that concentration camps in Germany were liberated by soldiers, not by demonstrations in another country.

Bonn is also attempting to use its influence in Zagreb to halt the Croatian offensive to regain territory occupied by the Serbs. Herr Kinkel last week sent a stiff note to the Croatian foreign minister condemning the offensive as a step backwards and saying military force was not the solution.

President Tudjman reacted angrily, telling the magazine *Der Spiegel* at the weekend that he was "very astonished" that less understanding was shown in Germany than in other European countries, such as Britain and France, for his government's attempt to free Croatia of "hostile groups". Bonn believes Zagreb is deeply worried at the cooling of relations since the departure of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the former foreign minister.

The government remains divided over the use of German forces in former Yugoslavia. Disagreement between the parties in the coalition has sharpened, with threats by the Free Democrats to break up the coalition if the chancellor sanctions the use of German pilots on Awacs combat missions. Some of the Free Democrat politicians have



Kinkel: wants another look at arms embargo

threatened to join the opposition Social Democrats in supporting a resolution to ground the pilots until the issue has been decided by the constitutional court.

Herr Kohl is determined that Germany will not be the butt of allied sneering, as it was in the Gulf war, and has been supported by a blunt warning from Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general and a former German defence minister. He said Nato's Awacs surveillance would be hit hard if the German crews pulled out and suggested there was growing impatience in the alliance over German indecision.

The influential *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* said in a recent leading article that, in spite of the anti-militarist legacy of two world wars, "one can ask what the right reaction is to people like Saddam, Milosevic and Karadzic. Can the Germans stand by and let others deter warmongers or put a stop to political criminals?" Frustrated by the months of argument that have left Germany impotent, especially in Bosnia and Somalia, Herr Kohl has threatened to make the deployment of German troops abroad a main topic of his election campaign.

The German people, horrified by the killing in Bosnia, increasingly favour massive military intervention against the Serbs to end the fighting; but no one is advocating the use of German ground forces because of the bitter legacy of the second world war.

The matter will come to a head if the UN Security Council enforces a no-fly resolution. Herr Kinkel's insistence, largely under pressure from Herr Genscher, his predecessor, that German crews must not take part has infuriated Herr Kohl, who thought he had agreement within the coalition. He is said to be ready to impose a decision on the cabinet if necessary.

The SPD also opposes any German participation in peace enforcement and is now awaiting a response from the constitutional court on its challenge to the government over the activities of the German ship now on patrol in the Adriatic. Its pacifist stance, holding up the deployment of the Bundeswehr even in Somalia, is popular in a country conditioned for 40 years to a limited German role on the world stage. To appease its restless left wing, the party is making much of its opposition to any combat role for the Bundeswehr.

Although the government has denied that it is under pressure from Britain, America and France, it knows that its current stance may look inappropriate to its allies and foolish at home.

Herr Kohl, whose own leadership is coming under question, sees the participation of German forces in peacekeeping as a good election issue in which to assert German interests while forcing the country to confront its new, big power responsibilities.

Brussels allies with Paris in attacking UK on social front

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

A NEW row over the social chapter looms in the European Community after both the French government and Jacques Delors yesterday attacked Britain for stealing French jobs.

Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, told EC ministers here yesterday that France regards the transfer of 600 jobs from a Hoover factory in Burgundy to Scotland as a "serious incident". Paris has asked the European Commission to investigate an alleged breach of EC rules.

"Europe cannot be created by unfair aid and people outbidding each other," M Dumas said. "It is time to relaunch the social dimension, all the more so now that foreign investors are trying to play member states against each other."

Speaking at the first televised session of an EC ministers' meeting, M Delors, president of the Commission, delivered the same warning without naming Britain.

"We need to safeguard the competition policy," he said, "making sure that we prevent people vying with each other to give more aid or social dumping." He said the EC needed to rededicate itself to passing social laws which have run aground on lengthy disputes between states.

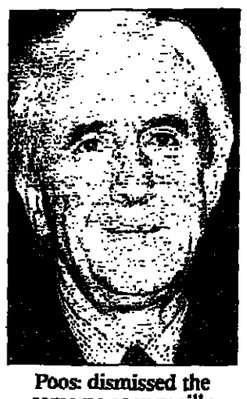
M Delors singled out a marooned directive, opposed by Britain, which would oblige multinational companies to consult workers and unions closely on employment or investment changes. He said: "I do not understand the reticence of certain countries to at least allow workers to know what is happening and to discuss the matter."

M Delors also appealed to the world's largest economies to hold an early "G7" summit in April to co-ordinate schemes for ending the global recession. "World crisis ... world solution," he said. EC officials have received discreet advice from the new Washington administration of President Clinton that America might agree to an early summit.

Brussels officials are keen to put rapid pressure on the Japanese government to help expand the world economy, and suspect that Tokyo if planning to announce a minimalist economic intiative just before the scheduled G7 summit in Tokyo in July.

French dust-up, page 25

Television peers into Euro nooks and crannies



Poos: dismissed the cameras as very silly

BY GEORGE BROCK

AN ERA of glasnost dawned in the European Community yesterday — up to a point. Television cameras were allowed into the Council of Ministers, which has been sealed to press and public for the past 35 years. The new openness was at the insistence of the Danish government, which hopes the spectacle will help calm Danish voters' fears over the Maastricht treaty by putting them to sleep.

Yesterday's limited experiment had been agreed with bad grace by most governments. Jacques Poos, Luxembourg's foreign minister, told the world that he thought the whole idea "very silly". Europe's citizens might not necessarily notice.

In a room at the Charlemagne building where the ministers routinely grind away at the EC-Norway fish quotas or debate anti-dumping tariffs on suspiciously cheap Chinese bicycles, a section of the seats in front of the television monitors had been reserved for the public. Only two seats were filled when Nils Helveg Pedersen, the new Danish foreign minister, called the meeting to order with what sounded like a doorbell. One occupant was a Portuguese diplomat, the other an official from the European Commission.

Ministers used to the careful protection of make-up artists before their television appearances were denied any chance to powder their noses; pre-positioned cameras rolled throughout without regard to the good side of anybody's profile.

Most speakers dragged out their traditional hobby horses. Jacques Delors sniped at Britain. The Portuguese minister told everybody about East Timor. Emilio Colombo of Italy trotted in confused zig-zags round the painful subject of turbulence in the currency markets.

Television has not yet shown, nor is likely to show, how EC deals are really done: the deft pieces of last-minute drafting, the horse trading, and the whispered fix in the corridor.

☐ **Policy pledge:** The European Community formally opened talks to admit Austria, Finland and Sweden and heard assurances that the three neutral nations accept plans to frame an EC foreign and security policy. *(Reuter)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hurd wants Israel to end dispute

Brussels: Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said yesterday the Middle East peace process and, therefore, Israel's security would be at risk if it did not settle the fate of Palestinian deportees.

He said that he and his European Community colleagues would emphasise the need to find a solution at a meeting last night with Shimon Peres, their Israeli counterpart. *(Reuter)*

Trial starts

Zaragoza: The trial of 11 people accused of negligence after at least ten patients received fatal doses of radiation while undergoing treatment for cancer opened in a Spain high court. *(Reuter)*

Dancer dies

Paris: Michel Renault, 65, for decades the Paris Opéra's brightest male baller star, has died from hepatitis. He became principal dancer at 18, and delighted Russian audiences in a 1958 tour. *(AP)*

Loyal support

Bratislava: Thousands of Slovaks are handing over gold, jewels and cash to help the new country's ailing economy. The government drive started with a gala for citizens to make their donations. *(Reuter)*

Dog watch

Davos: Security at a meeting of international business and political leaders in the Swiss Alps is so strict that even a watchdog has to wear an identity badge. *(Reuter)*

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Sons of Islam pursue women who break the ayatollah's code



Ali Khamenei: rejected cultural "corruption"

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN TEHRAN

■ With no war to fight, Iran has turned to the enemy within. Treatment of women is a barometer of the ideological climate, and they are targets in the latest radical backlash

THE steel-helmeted Islamic vigilante inspecting cars in a smart district of north Tehran could not have been a day over 14. He was not much taller than his automatic rifle, and his spotty face was covered in fluff that did not yet merit a razor.

"They are trouble. They are looking for any excuse to pick on people they think have broken Islamic rules," said our driver, a burly Iranian war veteran in his mid-forties who did little to disguise his fear and loathing of the gun-toting teenager, one of 15,000 members of the *baseej* (motivated) militia now mobilised in the capital. The *baseej* are the urban successors to the teenage "human wave" volunteers of the Iran-Iraq war. They are now in the vanguard of the drive to clamp down on liberal tendencies and ensure strict adherence to the values imposed by the late Ayatollah Khomeini during this week's 14th anniversary of the revolution.

The re-emergence of the *baseej*, mostly under-privileged youths from the south Tehran slums designated by the mullahs as "guardians of the divine values of the revolution", is the main symbol of the revival of Islamic radicalism that has distinguished the anniversary from that in 1992, when coming parliamentary elections still held out a slim prospect of reform.

The main target of the vigilantes — often illiterate and unable to read identity cards or car registration plates — are women who breach Islamic codes by wearing make-up, nail varnish or any perfume other than rosewater or allowing hair outside their headscarves.

After the honeymoon that followed the ayatollah's death and the 1989 election of President Rafsanjani, transgressors are again being rounded up into minivans and driven off for lectures, or worse, in the offices of the "disciplinary forces".

One foreigner married to an Iranian said: "The punishment is not always physical, but we know of a woman flogged so badly after being found playing tennis in a bikini in the grounds of her home that she had to be flown abroad for treatment." Ever since the 1979 revolution deposed the Shah, the treatment of women has been a barometer of Iran's ideological climate. In the backlash after the supposed victory of reformers in last year's poll, it has again proved an accurate rule of thumb.

At the influential ministry for Islamic guidance and culture, Ali Larijani, the minister, given the task of countermanding the mild liberalisation of his dismissed predecessor on the social and cultural front, all women secretaries were banned. Strict segregation of the sexes was again enforced in many places and roadblocks manned by the *baseej* were thrown up in north Tehran, the fashionable area where the upper classes still struggle to maintain Western values behind the closed curtains of their villas.

Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani's attempts to encourage vitally needed foreign investment have been undercut by recent raids mounted by the vigilantes on offices of foreign companies to check that all employees are adhering strictly to Islamic codes. At least one European embassy has also had its commercial section raided to ensure that all women employees were wearing headscarves.

Parallel to the backlash on the streets has been the "cultural offensive" mounted against illegal video-recorders, music and video-tapes and any form of satellite dish. "With no more foreign war to fight, the government has turned to the enemy within," explained a Western diplomat. "They see screen images of Western culture as the new threat, but are having problems because the pressure for these things is coming from their own people, not from outside."

Whatever Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani's pragmatic intentions may once have been, he is making no effort to counter the post-election decree by Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei, that "social vices" and "cultural corruption" must be wiped out.

Clinton loses his lustre in 13 days of blundering

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton's inaugural celebrations are already a distant memory. In his first 13 days in office the "people's president" has managed to spark two great popular revolts, infuriate America's generals and offend his party's legislators. A Gallup poll yesterday showed a third of Americans disapproved of his performance, the worst showing of any new president since such polls began in the 1950s.

Barely a month ago Mr Clinton was named *Time* magazine's "Man of the Year", but the media has since accorded him the shortest grace period in presidential history. Commentators are already — albeit absurdly — likening his presidency to Jimmy Carter's. They suggest that the former Arkansas governor is not yet ready for the big league and has "hit the ground back-pedalling".

The New York Times called his first days a "three-ring circus of novice mistakes". Even affectionate stories about Mr Clinton's early morning jogs to the nearest McDonald's have been supplanted by reports of how such forays play havoc with Washington's rush-hour traffic.

Democrats have been dismayed by Mr Clinton's stumbling performance, so at odds with a faultless campaign that focused ruthlessly on "the economy, stupid". He appeared to have left his sensitive political antennae in Little Rock. He lost control of the political agenda, letting the spotlight shine on peripheral issues that emitted all the wrong signals.

Mr Clinton campaigned as a New Democrat who championed honest, middle-of-the-road Americans and was not in hock to his party's minority left-wing constituencies. In office he has tried to appoint a £345,000-a-year corporate lawyer to be his attorney-general, even though she had broken the law. He has embraced the cause of homosexuals. Far from cutting middle-class taxes, he has floated a new energy tax that would hit the middle class hardest.

Earlier presidents might have got away with such violations, but Mr Clinton is the victim of a remarkable new phenomenon: people power. He and Ross Perot fought the election campaign via call-in shows, town meetings, petition drives and heartland bus tours. They encouraged public participation and galvanised millions of voters, but the electorate is now reluctant to sink back into passivity. During both the Zoe Baird and gays-in-the-military controversies, congressmen were deluged with faxes and telephone calls from an irate citizenry. In eight days the Capitol switchboard received a record 1,650,143 calls, and the public will prevailed.

Mr Clinton had promised to send Congress economic and health care plans at the very outset of his presidency, and either would have dominated the political agenda. But a chaotic transition meant he barely filled the relevant jobs in time, let alone finished the plans.

Belatedly Mr Clinton is moving to regain control. He took his cabinet to Camp David last weekend for a brainstorming session on ways to promote his administration's agenda. He has re-established the strategic "war room" that served his campaign so well. He plans to use an address to the nation's governors today, and congressional passage of a family leave bill later in the week, to reassert his priorities.

Outside Washington, the country desperately wants him to succeed. By 1996 Ms Baird's name will be long forgotten and he will be judged on the economy. Moreover, he is a great fighter and survivor. A particular highlight of his inaugural gala was film clips of umpteen political pundits bluntly declaring, during last year's New Hampshire primary, that adultery and draft evasion revelations had killed his candidacy.

☐ **Gay beaten:** Three marines who dragged a homosexual man out of a bar and beat him while shouting "Clinton must pay" were each charged with four counts of assault in Wilmington, North Carolina. They were released on $400 (£275) bond each. *(AP)*

Bernard Levin, page 16



Showtime in Brooklyn: Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, 90, the Lubavitcher rebbe, at a gathering of his followers in Crown Heights

Factional feuding denies 'messiah' his crown

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THOUSANDS of members of Lubavitch, the largest Hasidic Jewish group, crammed into a synagogue in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, on Sunday night in the hope of hearing their leader, Grand Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, known as the rebbe, declare himself to be the messiah and so end a dispute that has threatened to rupture the ultra-orthodox movement.

The appearance by the 90-year-old rabbi, who suffered a stroke last year that partly paralysed him and deprived him of speech, had been billed as his "coronation" and was broadcast by satellite to Lubavitchers in Israel, Britain, France, Hong Kong and Sydney. But when Rabbi Schneerson finally emerged in a wheelchair for eight minutes on the balcony of the Lubavitch World Headquarters he did not accept the mantle of the messiah as some of his more zealous followers had predicted.

"The rebbe is acknowledging nothing," said his official spokesman, leaving Lubavitchers still divided over whether Rabbi Schneerson is the messiah. The leadership of the sect, while acknowledging the leader's messianic qualities, insists that only God can usher in a messiah and world peace. In recent months, fervent expectations within the Lubavitch community have been high. Many members of the sect have taken to carrying electronic bleepers that summon them to the synagogue when Rabbi Schneerson appears.

On Sunday night, when the curtains around the grey-bearded rabbi were parted, the 8,000-strong crowd broke into excited song of "Long live our Master, our Teacher and our Rabbi, the King Messiah for ever and ever." As the rabbi nodded his head to the music, the chanting grew louder and some of the worshippers danced or climbed on each other's shoulders and scaled pillars to get a better view. Meanwhile, in Israel and in many of the 1,500 Lubavitch centres worldwide the faithful sang and danced.

But last night's ceremony, marking the 43rd anniversary of the rebbe's leadership, represented an uneasy truce between rival factions. Lubavitcher officials reportedly had threatened not to bring the rabbi to the synagogue unless the faction pronouncing him as the messiah toned down their claims; their opponents were forced to admit that the ceremony was not a coronation after all. Some theologians say that the debate over the rebbe's messianic status is the result of uncertainty over who will succeed Rabbi Schneerson, who has no children and is the last in a dynasty of seven Lubavitch leaders.

"I'm ready for the Moshiach [messiah] whenever he wants to come," said one earnest and bearded rabbinical student, as the worshippers, clad in Hasidic black coats and hats, streamed out of the synagogue and along the streets of Brooklyn.

Burma's junta steers democracy meeting

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN RANGOON

ABOUT 700 leading Burmese resumed a meeting here yesterday to discuss guidelines for a new constitution. The national convention, called by the junta in an effort to improve its poor international status over human rights abuses, took place under heavy security.

The atmosphere at the convention, on the outskirts of the capital, was strained. A heavy presence of top brass at the front of the hall had an inhibiting effect on most participants and officials closely monitored journalists who had only had limited contact with delegates.

Aung Toe, the convention chairman and a chief justice, told the 695 participants, who included representatives of the Karen, Shan, Mon and Naga minority groups: "It is essential distinguished delegates engage in discussions with patience, tolerance and a mutual sense of magnanimity."

The convention met for two days last month but was abruptly adjourned amid speculation that some of the ten political parties represented, especially the National League for Democracy, had opposed the military's demand that a special role for it be written into the new constitution. The army has been in power for more than 30 years since it came to power in 1962.

Many political leaders of the league, as well as other pro-democracy parties, have been jailed, abandoned politics or fled into exile. Surviving members of the league were considered to have been "tamed" by the military until the convention opened last month. Yesterday one delegate, who managed to speak to a reporter out of earshot of officials, said: "This is a typical convention — the usual blah-blah."

But a woman delegate, Dr Tin Tin Hmun, said: "We hope this is a step in the right direction. First we need peace and tranquility, then we can look at various procedures ahead."

Rangoon's diplomatic community is divided over the junta's objectives. Some claim the proposed liberalisation is purely cosmetic and that the junta is trying to move towards a government with more civilian participation which the army can manipulate. "They are taking the heat in the international community, so they want civilian scapegoats," said a diplomat. "But one way or another, the army will remain in power."

A minority of diplomats, however, believe that under General Than Shwe, the junta chief who took over from his ailing predecessor last April, a genuine if limited process of liberalisation is under way.

One official present at the convention yesterday said privately of the military's woes: "The Tatmadaw (army) is being jagged by three thorns — detention of [Nobel peace laureate and former National Democracy League leader] Aung San Suu Kyi, suppression of the people and the parlous state of the economy."

The convention, scheduled to last several weeks, broke into committees after the opening session to consider aspects of a future constitution, including the military's participation in a future state.

Army guards Timor rebel's trial

FROM MENUK SUWONDO IN DILI, EAST TIMOR

XANANA Gusmao, the East Timor guerrilla chief, went on trial yesterday as hundreds of Indonesian troops ringed the court for fear of attacks by his dwindling band of supporters.

The 45-year-old, bearded Mr Xanana looked calm and waved to journalists as he was led into court in the local capital, Dili, to hear the long list of charges, some of them capital offences. The prosecutor, Ketut Suwara, told the court: "He led people to take up arms against the government of Indonesia in an effort to set up an independent state in East Timor."

The intense security belied the military's claims that Mr Xanana's arrest in a raid two months ago crippled the Fretilin guerrilla fight against 17 years of Indonesian rule. "It's a blow for their resistance. We expect more of his friends to give up," an army officer said.

Indonesia has offered clemency for rebels who lay down their guns and has warned of tough action against any who reject the offer. It says they now number fewer than 150; more than 1,000 active Fretilin supporters have surrendered since Mr Xanana's capture.

Indonesia invaded East Timor in late 1975, months after the departure of the Portuguese, who had ruled it for three centuries. It was annexed the following year, a move still not recognised by the United Nations.

The main charge against Mr Xanana — leading a movement to set up an independent state — has a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. The accusation of illegally possessing firearms, a capital offence, is a subsidiary charge and diplomats doubt whether Mr Xanana would get the death sentence. *(Reuter)*

MORTGAGES
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Emirate bans news on alleged state fraud

Kuwait: The Gulf emirate yesterday banned publication without prior permission of reports about allegations of fraud at state-owned investment and shipping firms. Muhammad Abdulhah al-Banai, the attorney-general, said the ruling affected "statements, reports or information" about suspected fraud at Kuwait Oil Tanker Company and the London-based Kuwait Investment Office (KIO).

Publication would require written permission from his office, he said. It was not immediately clear whether the ban also affected reports in the international media available in the emirate.

Emotions are running high in Kuwait over revelations of suspected corruption in the management of parts of the large foreign investment portfolio. Mr Banai has been investigating allegations of fraud in KIO's Spanish investment arm Grupo Torras, which collapsed last year with losses of £3 billion. *(Reuter)*

China quashes jail revolt

Peking: An attempted break-out from a remand centre led to mobilisation of paramilitary troops and a prisoner being shot dead, the official *Legal Daily* said. The man was killed as about 120 troops and police surrounded his block.

The heavy response to a relatively small incident reflects official nervousness about social disturbances. "There is no such thing as a minor incident," the paper said. "If a prison rebellion ever succeeded, there would be no end of terrible consequences." *(AFP)*

Judge 'innocent'

Manila: Hugo Gutierrez, a justice in the Philippines supreme court at the centre of a corruption scandal, has taken early retirement. Professing his innocence, Mr Gutierrez, 66, said he was retiring "for reasons of propriety". Newspapers here named him as one of four justices being investigated for corruption.

Bully for you

Tokyo: Japan is to hire 14,000 child welfare workers to help tackle school bullying and truancy. The move came after the deaths of two schoolboys in the past month, apparently due to bullying. *(Reuter)*

Mars mission

Hong Kong: Chinese and Russian scientists will jointly explore Mars with a three-year plan to send probes to the planet. The survey project will involve sending a satellite to orbit Mars next year. *(AFP)*

Winning streak

Maputo: Schoolboy Rofino Manhica, 15, who used his part-time earnings to bet on football pools has won 27.3 million meticais — about £5,800 but 38 years' pay in Mozambique. *(Reuter)*



Pol Pot: Khmer Rouge leader under attack

Cambodian forces hit rebel areas

FROM SHERI PRASSO IN PHNOM PENH

GOVERNMENT troops in Cambodia have launched the biggest offensive against the Khmer Rouge, led by Pol Pot, since UN peacekeepers were deployed in the country nearly a year ago, the United Nations said yesterday. The action signalled the disintegration of the already tattered peace process.

A senior government official said the offensive was a response to the inability of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac) to keep the Khmer Rouge in check. "We have to fight them, because we don't trust Untac," he said.

Eric Berman, a UN spokesman, said the offensive spanned five provinces across Cambodia and was aimed at capturing territory in central and eastern Cambodia and moving towards the Khmer Rouge guerrilla headquarters at Pailin.

A spokesman for the government forces said the troops had killed 51 Khmer Rouge guerrillas, wounded 89 and captured two. *(AFP)*

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Riots blamed on rulers' refusal to accept democratic reform

Paris issues aid warning to Zaire and Togo leaders

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ROLAND Dumas yesterday threatened to cut aid to Zaire and Togo, blaming violence sweeping the two countries on their leaders' refusal to accept democratic reforms.

The French foreign minister's warning came as the governor of Zaire's capital, Kinshasa, banned political meetings and public gatherings in the wake of riots in which about 65 people died.

In Togo, more than 25,000 people have fled from the capital, Lomé, after soldiers wreaked havoc in a weekend of shooting and looting.

Hundreds of women and children continued to stream out of the city as President Eyadema called for "all necessary means" to be used to restore order. He said that the troops had gone on the rampage at the weekend to avenge the murder of a soldier last week.

The murder followed violence at an opposition demonstration a week ago which left at least 16 civilians dead. A ministerial team from France and Germany was in Togo at the time to try to mediate in the stalled transition to democracy. France condemned the



Dumas: France not Africa's policeman

"serious excesses" of the Togolese troops and called on the "protagonists" to begin a round-table meeting in Strasbourg from Friday.

Daniel Bernard, a foreign ministry spokesman, said in Paris: "Coming just a few days after the Franco-German ministerial mission of contact, information and peace, the violence shows once again that there is no way out of the crisis in this country but for negotiations among all the protagonists to bring about free and democratic elections without delay."

M Dumas told the French newspaper *Sud-Ouest* that, although France was not the policeman of Africa, it could cut aid to those governments that failed to adopt democratic rule. "It is not our job to substitute ourselves for this or that government or this or that people in choosing its leaders, but we must encourage democracy. To do this we do have diplomatic, economic and financial means and we can cut off aid from one day to the next."

The Zairean capital appeared quiet last night, but bursts of riflefire and the dull boom of heavier weapons were heard throughout Sunday night across the sprawling city. State radio reported that some looting had continued.

"The situation in Kinshasa is extremely serious," Mungul Diaka, the city's governor, who is an ally of President Mobutu, said. The wave of bloodshed and looting struck Zaire last Thursday, led by soldiers angry at being paid in new banknotes made worthless by an opposition boycott. President Mobutu's elite presidential guard shot down rioters in the streets to restore tenuous order after 48 hours, but tension remained high yesterday.

A 28-year-old son of Frederic Kibassa Maliba, the opposition leader, was killed on Sunday in an attack on his father's home, radio reports said, and two other sons were in a critical condition. They gave no further details, but opposition sources said the house was hit by a rocket fired by the presidential guard. President Mobutu is locked in a power struggle with the opposition, including the transitional prime minister, Etienne Tshisekedi, over political reforms which could end his 28-year rule.

Aid workers put the latest confirmed body count at 65, but the total after four days of violence is almost certain to be higher. Central Kinshasa was virtually deserted again yesterday. Scarcely any cars were on the streets, although growing numbers of pedestrians were venturing outside. Public transport was not running yesterday. Almost all the rolling stock of the main state-owned City-Train service had been vandalised.

The smart Gombe district, which includes embassies and the luxury Intercontinental Hotel packed with rich families escaping the violence, has been declared a military "operational zone".

The military zone was seen as a warning to soldiers from Belgium not to land to evacuate their nationals. At least 400 Belgian paratroops have arrived in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville, but President Mobutu has denied them permission to enter Zaire. Several dozen French troops are already in Kinshasa to protect French citizens.

Leading article, page 17



Victims honoured: paratroops in Kinshasa escorting the coffins of Philippe Bernard, the French ambassador, and another Frenchman killed in the Zairean unrest

Mercenary in Africa's wars flies home to a French jail

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

COLONEL Bob Denard, the last and most legendary of French "dogs of war", put three decades of African escapades behind him yesterday and flew home to France to clear his name.

Colonel Denard, 64, whose mercenary career took him to almost every African conflict until the late 1980s, was arrested on his arrival at Paris airport from South Africa. Tall, greying and stiff from old wounds, Colonel Denard was led without handcuffs to a court appearance and then jail.

"I just want to go home to Bordeaux to live quietly with my family," he said before leaving Pretoria, where he had spent three years. "I must wash off the suspicion which has tainted my name."

The former second mate in the French Marines is wanted on murder charges arising from the death in 1989 of President Abdallah of the Comoros, a former French colony which he and his fellow soldiers of fortune in effect ruled in the 1980s. Also outstanding against him is a five-year prison sentence passed in Paris in 1991 for his part in a failed coup in Benin, the former French colony of Dahomey, in 1977. The charges, say Colonel Denard and his supporters, were brought after the political go-ahead from the President Mitterrand's Socialist government.

Historians generally accept that French governments at various times found mercenaries useful in their policy towards former African territories. Commentators suggested yesterday that Colonel Denard had waited for the current general election campaign to return, in the hope that a new right-wing government would prove sympathetic.

Colonel Denard, born Gilbert Bourgeaud, began his mercenary career in 1960, fighting for Moise Tshombe and his breakaway Congo state of Katanga.

He served in Yemen, Biafra and Gabon, where he reorganised the presidential guard. He hit the headlines in 1977 when he led a force of white mercenaries, financed by Morocco and backed by France, in an abortive coup in Benin. Two local citizens were killed and a dozen wounded in an operation that owed more to Laurel and Hardy than military strategy.

Fifteen months ago the Paris magistrates court finally convicted him of associating with criminals and theft in the operation. The warrant for his arrest in the Comoros killing was issued two years ago. He had gone to there in 1975, allegedly with French backing, to overthrow President Abdallah.

Three years later Mr Abdallah hired his band to reinstate him. He then appointed Colonel Denard chief of the presidential guard, a position which made him the country's number two figure. The president was killed during an uprising in November 1989. Colonel Denard, who was given refuge in South Africa, denies shooting him.

Former French soldiers have found a new outlet in the wars that have erupted since the fall of communism. At least three foreign legionnaires have deserted to fight in former Yugoslavia. General Ruso, the chief of Croatia's green-beret commando forces, is a former sergeant in the Legion.

Malan exits as curtain falls on apartheid era

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN CAPE TOWN

SOUTH AFRICA's tricameral parliament started the first full week of its last session with moves intended to close the door on its apartheid past.

The most surprising development was the resignation of General Magnus Malan, the former chief of the defence staff who was relegated to the minor water and forestry portfolio after his involvement in the so-called Inkathagate affair. His retirement from the cabinet and from politics marks the end of an era.

The way is now open for President de Klerk to begin a reconstruction of his cabinet, particularly since a number of his ministers are about to find their jobs significantly changed as a result of last week's announcements about the phasing out of separate administrations for white, Indian and Coloured affairs.

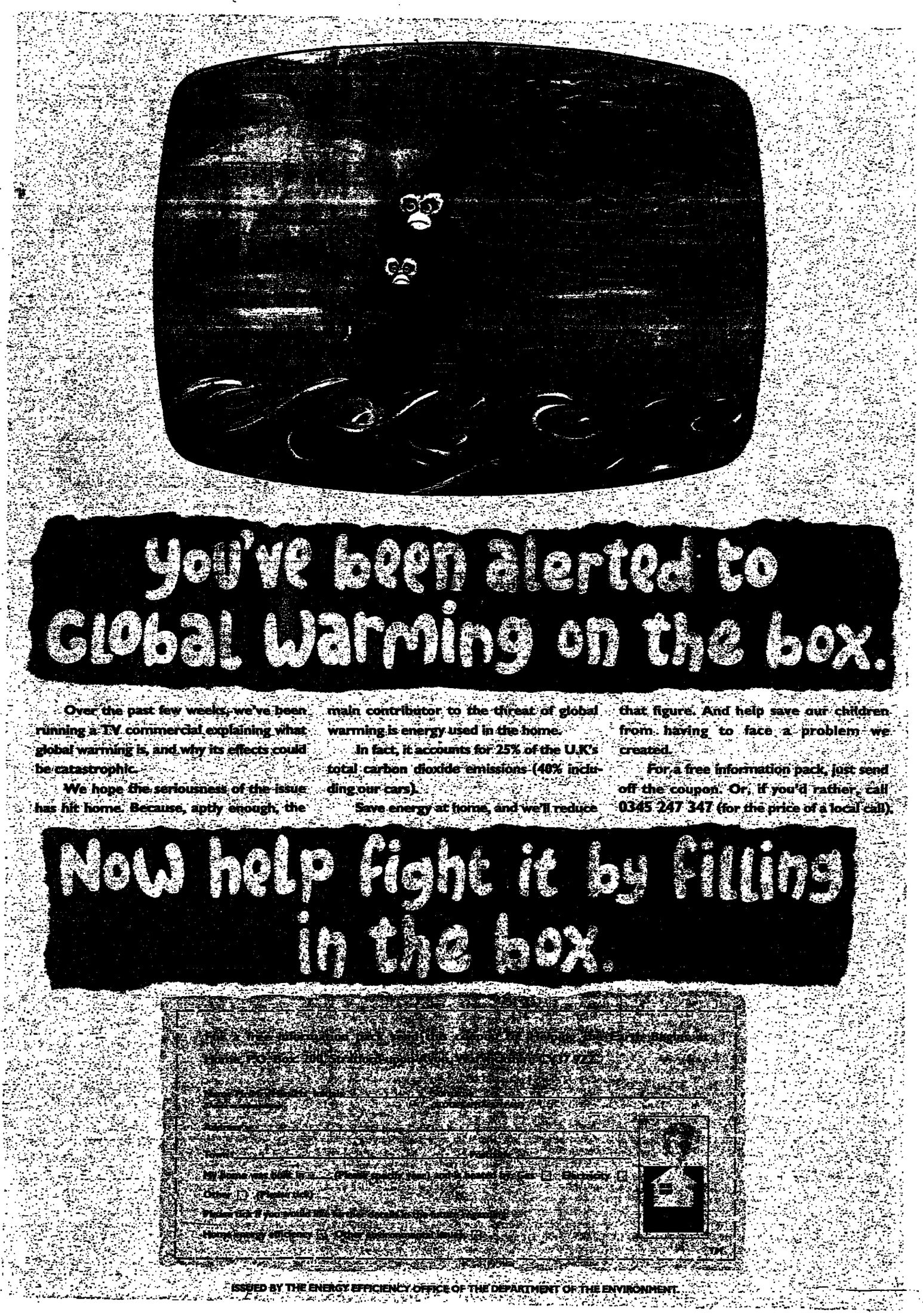
The point was emphasised yesterday in a statement from Jakobus Rabie, the chairman of the ministers' council of the house of representatives, the Coloured house, who expected that he and his fellow Coloured ministers would be out of their jobs by April. At the same time he declared his belief that 85 per cent of the Coloured community would support the National party in any coming election.

The imminence of a general election was signalled with the disclosure by Louis Pienaar, the home minister, that his ministry was well on the way to ensuring that all those entitled to vote in the first non-discriminatory election would be registered to do so.

Mr Pienaar said that his ministry has assumed that the election will be on a proportional representation basis, without constituencies, and that the identity document that every South African is required to carry will be sufficient proof of the right to vote. He said that only 79.3 per cent of blacks had been issued with such documents and that another 2.54 million needed to apply for them.

Roelf Meyer, the constitutional development minister who is also the government's chief negotiator with opposition groups, in his report to parliament emphasised that fundamental questions still divided the government from the African National Congress on regional government and power sharing, and from the Inkatha Freedom Party on the mechanics of the transition to a new democratic constitution. Many of these issues are going to lead to some extremely tough negotiating between the government and the ANC or Inkatha or both.

☐ **Johannesburg**: A violent confrontation erupted between police and black taxi drivers protesting against discrimination by traffic authorities. Rush-hour traffic came to a standstill when about 700 taxi drivers blocked off parts of the central business district.



Life-giving legacy of the war

Could the high British incidence of breast cancer be fought by returning to the boring but nutritious diet of the second world war? **Aileen Ballantyne** reports



Keeping the home fires burning: Land Army "girls" making do with what was available during a cookery lesson at the beginning of 1945 — and for a long time after the war

The strictly rationed, low calorie, nutrient-packed "war diet" of the second world war has produced a generation of women who are about 20 per cent less likely to get breast cancer than doctors expected, according to the results of a study released yesterday by the Cancer Research Campaign.

These "war babies" have given scientists an important clue in the controversy that continues to rage over the precise causes of breast cancer, the leading killer in the United Kingdom of women aged 35 to 64. While many cancer experts strongly suspect a link between a diet high in animal and dairy fats and breast cancer, these links remain unproven, despite a continuing unexplained difference in the rates of this disease both between and within countries.

> 'You could not follow a junk diet and fill up on empty calories during the war'

The report comes after the Social Trends survey suggested last week that the UK has the worst record in Europe in the area of breast cancer death, with the average woman's risk of developing breast cancer at one in 12.

The new results, which are based on an examination of all the reported cases of breast cancer in Scotland since 1930, appear to show the protective effect of a balanced, nutrient-dense diet that is extremely low in the "empty calories" provided by high fat and high sugar foods.

The study was carried out in Scotland because cancer incidence figures going back several decades have been rigorously kept there. But the trends shown by the study are expected to be repeated by further studies in England and Wales.

Similar evidence of the war diet's protective effects on breast cancer have been found in The Netherlands and in Norway. "The easy culprit to pin it on is fat," says Professor Gordon McVie, scientific director of the Cancer Research Campaign (CRC).

"But it may be that the risk factor, in terms of cancer, is the absence of protective agents in the diet, such as vitamins A and C — important constituents of an 'anti-cancer' diet — plus fibre."

In Britain, during the war, extra vitamins A and D were added to margarine, and from 1941 children and pregnant women were given orange juice and cod liver oil in order to provide them with vitamins A, C and D.

Experts believe it was not just the addition of vitamins to the basic diet which was important, but the fact that, for the first time, there was a real attempt to "work backwards" on food production, producing the food that would give the essential nutrients and energy from the bare minimum available. Many people, just emerging from the high unemployment days of the 1930s, had access to a proper balanced diet for the first time, and the more affluent, used to a high meat, high fat, high sugar diet, had little choice other than the well-balanced, high fibre, lower fat diet available when the rationing system came in with the war.

The leading dietician and government adviser on food, Dr John Boyd Orr, said at the time: "The war has forced us to adopt a food policy based on the nutritional needs of the people."

There was a strong emphasis on fresh vegetables. Hampstead Heath, in north London, was dug up and turned over to the growing of vegetables. Full use was made of every allotment, and suburban back gardens throughout the country were denuded of roses, which made way for enough carrots and greens to feed a family.

Even wartime bread was nearly the equivalent of today's wholemeal loaves in a deliberate attempt to preserve more of the nutrients — and to ensure that more of the grain that took up precious shipping space was put to good use. However, unlike today, it was the only bread available.

Professor Peter Boyle, the head of epidemiology at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, who carried out the study, says that: "For the first time, there was a systematic attempt to make sure everybody enjoyed a balanced diet."

Professor Boyle says that during the second world war there was a shift in Scotland from a high-fat, meat-based diet to a diet high in vegetables and fibre. New evidence emerging on cancer prevention suggests that the wartime dietitians were more correct than they knew when they placed such emphasis on vegetables.

Today's health department guidelines on diets which may provide protection against cancer (see box below) backs up the wisdom of the war diet, with its emphasis on fresh vegetables, wholemeal-style bread and cutting down on fats. The CRC study would seem to indicate that attention to diet may be particularly important during the early years and around puberty, which is when breast tissue is developing.

Scientists now believe that fruit and vegetables — particularly salads and lightly cooked green vegetables — have a protective effect because they contain fibre, vitamins and minerals which can act as "anti-oxidants", that mop up free radicals.

Free radicals are the highly reactive molecules that occur naturally in the body, thought by some to be at the root of the aging process, which can, if left unchecked by these protective elements in fruit and vegetables, cause damage to our genes and lead to cancer.

Jean King, the head of education at the CRC, the charity which, together with the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, finances virtually all cancer research in this country, stresses that simply taking vitamin tablets is not enough.

This is because scientists believe there may well be protective elements in fresh fruit and vegetables themselves which are not found in the tablet form.

"Taking supplements can give a false sense of security," she says. "All food is made up of hundreds of different substances, many of which may, either singly or acting together, have a beneficial effect. It is preferable by far to eat a varied diet rather than try to eat lots of one type of food just because of its reported 'anti-cancer' effect — like recent stories about broccoli and carrots.'

Mrs Margaret Wynn, whose husband, Arthur, was a government chief scientist during the war, and who brought up a war baby of her own, says it is not surprising that the positive effects of the war diet are emerging today, as its original aim was to prevent disease. "You could empty a munitions factory just as effectively with an outbreak of influenza as you could by dropping a bomb," she says.

She stresses that, in many ways, eating a balanced diet was easier *during the war than it is today*. "You couldn't follow a junk diet and fill up on empty calories during the war — they just weren't available," she says. New evidence of geographical differences in cancers within the UK, shortly to be published by the CRC, shows a sharp "north-south" divide, with breast cancer rates at about one in 12 in Scotland and the north of England, but as high as one in ten in the south of England.

Cancer experts will continue to examine the UK cancer statistics to see if the trend shown by the Scottish figures for women now in their late forties and fifties will continue for the post-war babies.

But Professor McVie believes that the post-war "you've never had it so good" years about which Harold Macmillan boasted in 1957 may prove less beneficial when it comes to long-term health benefits.

Filling the nation's stomach for war

ACCORDING to figures compiled by the Ministry of Food at the time, this is what the average person in Britain ate every week during the war: **Potatoes:** 60 oz. **Bread:** 60 oz. **Vegetables:** 35 oz. All of these high-fibre foods, together with oatmeal, were available in large quantities. In addition, they ate: **Fruit and tomatoes:** 25 oz. **Meat:** 26 oz. **Oils and fats:** 12 oz. **Sugar and syrup** (including all sugar in jam, chocolate and biscuits): 2.2 oz. **Milk solids** (mainly dried milk except for young children, pregnant women and nursing mothers): 15 oz. **Eggs** (mainly dried): six. **Fish and game:** 6 oz. This diet provided an average daily consumption of 2,800 calories for adults. Average weekly consumption of sugar from all sources was 22 oz. Bread was the near equivalent of today's wholemeal. Vitamins A and D were added to margarine. Children and pregnant women were given orange juice and cod liver oil for vitamins A, C and D.



Forbidden fruits: average wartime consumption of sugar and syrup was 22 oz a week for each person

Fruit, vegetables and the cancer connection

GUIDELINES from the health department conclude that, on average, about 35 per cent of all cancers are attributable to diet. To avoid cancer the department recommends: a diet containing plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. These "appear to have a protective effect on cancer of the stomach, oesophagus, large bowel and lung". In particular, they recommend increasing consumption of fresh green and lightly cooked vegetable or salads. In addition to this, the Europe Against Cancer guidelines on diet recommend: "Avoid being overweight. Eat plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables and foods containing vitamins and fibre. Cut down on fatty foods. Go easy on alcohol."

Recent guidelines from the World Health Organisation and the National Cancer Institute in the United States also recommend five daily servings of fresh fruit or vegetables, as well as potatoes.

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To obtain your free banknotes simply collect eight different tokens from those printed in *The Times* from Monday January 25 to Friday February 5. Token 7 appears here. Or, collect all ten tokens to receive these notes and a free *Sunday Times* Currency Collection Album, and the opportunity to purchase the presentation wallet for only £5.95. An application form appears tomorrow.

Long-haul flights may lead to blood clots

High flyers under pressure

What do an airline president, a pop star and a peer have in common? They all recently developed frightening symptoms — swollen legs, chest pains and difficulty breathing — after transatlantic flights. They were found to be suffering from life-threatening blood clots and were treated immediately with anti-coagulants. All recovered.

They were part of a small group prone to blood clots, and the evidence suggests that their "embolism" or clot occurred as a direct result of their air travel.

Blood clots are more likely to happen if someone experiences two or more of the following: altered coagulability of the blood, a lowering of the blood flow, previous damage to blood vessels. There is growing concern that the hours of immobility, cramped conditions and possible dehydration which are part and parcel of a long flight can create a lethal cocktail. Every week John Scurr, a vein specialist at the Middlesex Hospital, sees at least one patient with a clot who has just stepped off an aeroplane; they are usually sent to him by GPs attached to London hotels.

A clot is often symptomless until the heart stops. Warning signs such as swollen legs and chest pains might not occur, and the embolism may travel up the leg (the most likely area to be affected) to the lung and become a pulmonary clot, which, if large enough, can block the flow of blood to the heart.

Dr Ian Perry, a private consultant in aviation medicine who examines more than 2,000 airline pilots a year, says, "There is a lot of misinformation and misdiagnosis about embolism, but there is plenty of evidence linking the condition with flying."

Attempts by Mr Scurr and Dr Perry to alert the airlines to the danger of passengers developing embolisms after a long flight have met with little response. "Only Lufthansa has shown a flicker of concern so far," Mr Scurr says.

Things are, however, beginning to move. Following a meeting with Dr Kenneth Edgington, the chief medical officer of the Civil Aviation Authority, last November, Dr Perry, Mr Scurr and his colleague Philip Coleridge-Smith are putting the finial touches to a study investigating the incidence of deep vein thrombosis following long-distance air travel. In a proposal to be presented to the CAA's technical research committee this month, they outline a plan to monitor suitable subjects before and after long-haul flights.

"It is not, strictly speaking, the remit of the CAA to worry about passenger health, but Dr Edgington is interested. The support of a government body like the CAA, which has so much influence with airlines, is a great step forward," Mr Scurr says.

One recent survivor of a pulmonary embolism is John Foreman, Reader in Pharmacology at University College, London. Shortly after arriving in the United States on an economy flight, he felt chest pains. "I did have a small clot problem 15 years before," he says, "but it was so long ago I didn't connect the two. It was only on the fourth day that I went to hospital, where I was treated immediately with the anti-coagulant Hepavin." Now he wears compression hosiery knee socks every day, and takes a course of Hepavin before flying any long distance.

Mr Scurr believes that it would not be difficult or expensive for airlines to make immediate improvements: "It will take time before passengers have better designed seats, but meanwhile there could be a few well advertised 'do's' and 'don'ts'. Instead of those bed socks, passengers could be given compression knee socks, which would help their blood circulation enormously."

Long-haul flights

You are at risk if:
- You are elderly
- You are obese (because you are likely to be more immobile)
- You have varicose veins (because they can swell thereby lowering the blood flow)
- You become dehydrated (which alters the blood's coagulability).

Anyone on a long flight should:
- Flex ankles and put feet up regularly to help blood flow
- Drink plenty of water
- Wear BS6612 Class 1 compression hosiery (Class 2 if you are pregnant or have varicose veins). Knee socks will do, though stockings or tights are better. Only stockings and knee socks are available on prescription but Scholl, Kendall ("Lastosheer") and Boots make compression hosiery (including tights) which can be bought at chemists.

HILAIRE GOMER

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The ABC of hepatitis

THERE are four main types of viral hepatitis: A, B, C, and D. Other similar viruses, not yet isolated, possibly exist, but these four are those which are important to patients and doctors in Britain.

Hepatitis B is the virus that has caused some alarm after a patient at Staffordshire General Hospital was, apparently, infected by a surgeon performing a Caesarean section. Needle injuries are comparatively common at a Caesarian section. The doctor is in a hurry, and as a pregnant woman bleeds profusely there is always some urgency about stemming any haemorrhage.

A thousand other patients were operated on by the same surgeon. No other instances of infection have been found but the hospital is recommending that each patient should have the appropriate blood test, and has set up a telephone helpline (0785 58251).

The chance of contacting hepatitis B through surgery must be remote, considering the large operations carried out daily, but outbreaks are well recorded.

☐ Hepatitis B is transmitted by body fluids, including blood, semen, urine and saliva. Research shows that in many operations the surgeon pricks his finger with either a needle or some other sharp instrument. The blood-stained sweat in the surgeon's glove after an operation bears witness to this: sometimes it is the patient's blood that has penetrated the glove through perforations.

☐ The risk of infection is two way: the virus in the patient's blood might infect the surgeon or, if the surgeon's blood contaminates a wound, the patient can become the victim.

To most people the term hepatitis has become synonymous with jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyeballs); this is not accurate. Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver. If the inflammation is mild, the jaundice, if it exists at all, may not be visible to the naked eye and only confirmed after the result of blood tests.

The doctor in Stafford was quite unaware that he had ever had hepatitis B. Even a mild attack can leave the patient a carrier.

BOTTOM LINE

☐ An attack of hepatitis B starts one to six months after infection. Initially the symptoms are very much like those of flu, and may even include a cough and cold. They are coupled with loss of appetite and extreme debility and tiredness. After a few days, if the patient is to become jaundiced, the skin and the eyeballs become yellow.

Ninety-five per cent of patients make a full clinical recovery although some may become carriers. In 5 per cent of cases the patients develop chronic hepatitis, which may lead to cirrhosis.

☐ Hepatitis B is a worldwide infection. In many parts of the developing world, where it is very much more common, it is spread during early infancy. In Britain it is passed on by sexual intercourse and by close bodily contact with infected people. Doctors, nurses, prostitutes, homosexuals and those looking after psychiatric patients or prisoners, as well as people in the emergency services, such as police and ambulance staff are particularly likely to catch it.

Blood-borne infection is usually spread by drug abusers sharing needles. In the past, before it was possible to check blood used in transfusion, those who had had mulitiple blood transfusions were also at risk.

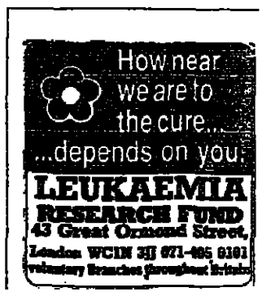
Hepatitis B can be prevented by vaccination. All people in risk groups should be tested for hepatitis B antibodies, and if they have not already been, infected should have a course of injections. Travellers to the Third World also need vaccination. Hepatitis B can be complicated by delta hepatitis, hepatitis D. This is a serious infection, for the virus only attacks those who have already been infected by hepatitis B.

☐ Treatment of chronic hepatitis B is with alpha interferons, after infection for at least six months. Thrice-weekly injections continue for some months. Flu-type side effects are common.

☐ Hepatitis A is a viral hepatitis caught through faecal contamination of water or food and is therefore common when standards of hygiene are low.

Although the patient may feel very ill recovery is almost invariable. Hepatitis C, formerly known as Non A Non B was in the past spread through infected blood transfusions.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



هكذا من الأصل

صكذا من الاصل

Did British soldiers commit atrocities during the Falklands conflict? **Hugh McManners** offers an explanation for the unimaginable



"On the battlefield, criminality has somehow to be separated from equally appalling yet legitimate actions": British soldiers with a prisoner during the Falklands conflict

When killing goes too far

Serious war crimes such as the shooting of prisoners and the desecration of bodies have taken place amid the horror and brutality of most past wars. Regardless of how the troops of other nations might behave, the British rightly expect our soldiers to behave properly and within the law even in combat — hence Scotland Yard's present, mid-summer battlefield tour.

Two Scotland Yard officers, Detective Superintendent Alec Edwards and Detective Inspector David Shipperlee, from the international and organised crimes squad, leave for the Falkland Islands today to investigate war crimes allegations against members of the 3rd Battalion the Parachute Regiment. The allegations, made in a book by Vincent Bramley, a former 3 Para lance corporal, are that after the battle for Mount Longdon several prisoners were shot, including three American mercenaries fighting for the Argentines. Mr Bramley also claims that ears were cut from Argentine bodies as trophies.

If the Yard concludes that war crimes were indeed commited, the most difficult aspect of their investigation will be to establish a *motive*. How could people do such things? Is the battlefield so corruptive that every civilised principle is forgotten or rendered irrelevant? The truth, which may be very difficult for people who stay safe at home to accept, is that provided the motives of soldiers, sailors and airmen are not personal, criminal or perverted, they are doing their duty in our name and on our behalf. And on the battlefield, criminality and perversion have somehow to be separated from equally appalling yet legitimate actions.

> The dividing line between what is legitimate and what could be considered criminal is not always clearly defined

On the battlefield, the aim of soldiers is to kill the enemy which, on the face of it, represents a total suspension of civilised values and basic humanity. In such an environment, a "war crime" must be something especially terrible.

The battlefield is however a very confusing place where, on the negative side, fear, mutilation and death are the only certainties. (Hope, comradeship, excitement, determination, faith and remarkably enduring humanity help stave off total depression.) The dividing line between what is legitimate, and what could be considered criminal is not always clearly defined, especially when emotions and adrenalin are running heart-stoppingly high.

In an infantry attack, soldiers run a gauntlet of artillery, machine-gun and small-arms fire as they advance towards the enemy's trenches. Along the way, their friends are wounded and killed. If hit by artillery, mortar or heavier calibre machine gun fire, some are dismembered. The wounded *must* be left to fend for themselves. Particularly at night, visibility is only a few yards, amid a fog of cordite fumes and burning vegetation.

Men stumble often unknowingly on to enemy positions, sometimes falling into the trenches. Called "the fight-through", this phase of an attack is fraught with danger, ambiguity, tragedy and violence. Men crawl to within a few feet of each trench or bunker under covering fire to throw grenades. After the explosion, there is simply no time to ascertain whether the enemy is dead, alive or wounded. Any movement is hostile and gets a bullet or the bayonet.

Once the fight-through starts, a prudent enemy should already have withdrawn — or is likely to be fighting on. To remain firing until attacking troops are a few yards from the trench, then expect to be allowed to surrender, is asking too much. The classic second world war expression used by attacking troops in this extreme situation was often "too late chum".

The "fight-through" can take hours and be very confused. With some groups of enemy trying to surrender while others fight on, tragic mistakes are made by both sides. Men may also fire by accident upon their friends.

Amid chaos and confusion, the attackers attempt to sort themselves out: carrying up a supply of ammunition and distributing it, disarming and searching prisoners, herding them back off the position, evacuating the wounded of both sides. This "re-org" phase is the best time for the enemy to counter-attack.

Under the severe pressure of this point in an attack, a number of Parachute Regiment veterans told me they could understand how prisoners might end up being shot, but that they would not contemplate doing it themselves. One man said that he would not expect to be taken prisoner during the fight-through.

Immediately after an attack, men are desperately tired, relieved to be alive, frightened that the enemy may still counter-attack, grieving at the death of friends ... an extreme cocktail of emotions. They have killed, often in hand-to-hand scuffles, in situations that haunt many of them for the rest of their lives. They are cold, wet, hungry, and may be ill, usually with diarrhoea. Their bergens (rucksacks) containing food, water, sleeping bags and poncho shelters may not reach them for days. They may be under small-arms, shell and mortar fire and they are surrounded by the dead.

Enemy bodies must be checked for booby traps. This is done in pairs, one man at a distance with a weapon covering in case the corpse is feigning death; the other lying on top of the body, then pulling it over on top of him as a shield against any concealed hand grenade or explosive device underneath. Face-up or mutilated corpses must also be checked — somehow.

There is an entirely understandable distinction made between the bodies of your friends and those of the enemy. The unwritten convention is that each side looks after its own. However, in the Falklands, captured Argentine officers seemed unconcerned about the remains of their own men, and so it fell to the British to deal with them. One paratrooper told me that he was surprised to find himself collecting enemy dead and burying them: "John Wayne and Clint Eastwood don't have to do it. Their bodies just dematerialise."

At Goose Green, a British military chaplain suffered the added problem of some Falkland islanders' attitudes: "The Argentine dead were being stacked up by the airfield. The islanders refused to let us bury them, threatening to dig the bodies up and throw them into the sea if we did. I asked the Argentine commander to help me identify some of his dead that didn't have discs, but he refused, saying he knew who they all were ... I know they didn't account for their dead. They're still there now."

There are practical considerations to finding and collecting large numbers of dead bodies spread over several square miles, particularly when people are exhausted. In the Falklands, tractors and trailers brought piles of corpses back to a central point for mass burial. Up in the hills however, each body had to be manhandled.

It was at this stage that acts of desecration of the Argentine dead are alleged to have taken place. Some soldiers certainly took photographs of enemy corpses — the battlefield equivalent of a holiday snap. A few immature individuals are alleged to have posed among the corpses, even placing cigarettes in their mouths. Such photographs are also thought to have been taken during the Gulf war.

It is difficult to understand how people could behave like this, but when forced to think about the slicing off of corpses' ears as trophies, comprehension becomes well nigh impossible, particularly as these offences were allegedly carried out by such well-selected and highly trained individuals. Such extreme behaviour is the product of extreme circumstances, and can only be understood in that context as a method of coping with intense fear.

There is no suggestion that either the alleged shootings or the alleged acts of desecration were any more than isolated incidents. It was made very clear to me by every combat veteran I interviewed that they strongly disapproved of all behaviour outside a clearly defined norm. Some individuals were ostracised, their fellows convinced of inevitable divine retribution.

Nearly 11 years on, Scotland Yard's hardest task will be to imagine themselves into the sodden boots and tired minds of those soldiers more than a decade ago. A strong and often painful sense of guilt affects many war veterans, not because they have committed crimes, but simply because they survived when their friends died.

The investigation of these war crimes allegations is necessary, if only to prevent us forgetting the horrors that service men and women endure on our behalf. Unlike these allegations, their humanity on the battlefield is well-documented, and flourishes like flowers amid the dung-heap of war.

● *The author is a Falklands veteran and the writer of* The Scars of War *(HarperCollins).*

Murder in times of war: the legal viewpoint

THE war crimes investigation by Scotland Yard is purely a civil matter. The two detectives will be looking for evidence of fatal shootings that cannot be justified under the normal conventions of war. If they find sufficient evidence, those suspected of illegal killings could be charged with murder under the 1861 Offences Against the Persons Act.

The case would not be dealt with under the 1991 War Crimes Act, which was passed specifically to deal with war crimes allegedly committed during the second world war by foreign nationals now living in Britain. Investigations by a Scotland Yard war crimes unit are continuing.

The allegations of prisoners being killed by British soldiers in the Falklands war, which appeared in *Excursion To Hell*, a book by former Lance Corporal Vincent Bramley, were investigated initially by the Ministry of Defence. Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, then passed the matter on to the Crown Prosecution Service, which called in Scotland Yard.

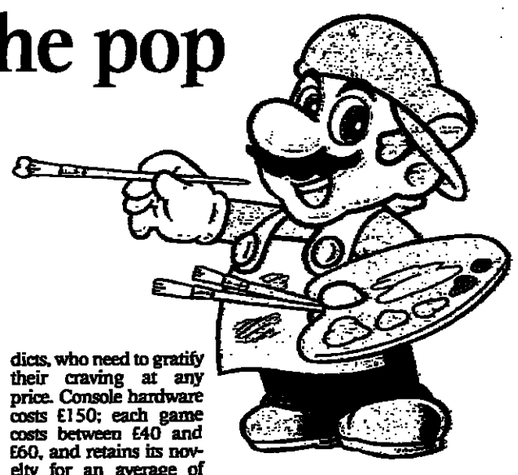
The Crown Prosecution Service said a decision on pursuing the case would depend on two criteria: was there sufficient evidence of a crime and was it in the public interest to prosecute? Its assessment would be based on the legal obligations arising from the Geneva Convention.

Scotland Yard has been involved in two similar cases. In the 1970s, there were allegations that members of the Scots Guards killed civilians in Malaysia. The soldiers said they had been detained as suspected terrorists and were shot when they tried to escape. There was felt to be no case to answer. In another case, a soldier confessed to having shot civilians in Burma, but when Scotland Yard tried to interview him he retracted his claim.

MICHAEL EVANS

The teenage obsession with computer games is starting to squeeze out music

Mario bursts the pop music bubble



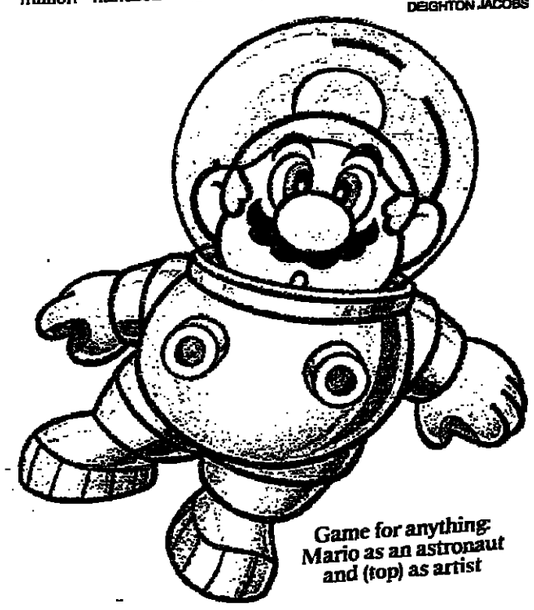
There's a new saying, that Stock Aitken and Waterman killed rock 'n' roll, and Sonic was left to bring up the kids. Teenagers, hard though it is to believe, are bored with pop. The music industry, whose very lifeblood has been, until now, a succession of unhealthy teenage cravings, has found itself upstaged. Teenagers now spend their days helping herds of lemmings to their deaths, rescuing silicone maidens or fighting thugs in back alleys.

Video games have spread across the nation's playgrounds like lice. At this moment, an estimated five million handsets are being squeezed by frenzied British adolescents. A survey last year revealed that Mario, Nintendo's moustachioed plumber, was more familiar to American schoolchildren than either Mickey Mouse or George Bush.

The video games business is worth £500-million a year, with a promotions budget to make Madonna's eyes water. Nintendo sold a million Game Boy systems in the UK in 1992. On "Sonic 2sday", November 24 last year, Sega launched a new game, "Sonic 2", and grossed £24 million in the first 24 hours.

The manufacturers have created a generation of addicts, who need to gratify their craving at any price. Console hardware costs £150; each game costs between £40 and £60, and retains its novelty for an average of three weeks. Although it is generally agreed that parents stump up most of the cost, games have made a hole in the cash available to buy records. Figures from the British Phonographic Industry (BPI) show a drop in sales of singles and albums over the past two years.

DEIGHTON JACOBS



Game for anything: Mario as an astronaut and (top) as artist

But there are several reasons for the sickly state of pop music. The record business has changed a great deal in 20 years. In the 1970s, the unit of currency was the single, at 45p a weekly necessity. Songs were perfectly crafted to the seven-inch form — tear-jerking ballads ("And Honey I Miss You ...") or snappy, chorus-heavy narratives ("Sheena is a punk rocker/Sheena is a punk rocker/Sheena is a punk rocker *now*"). Albums cost £2.99 and were solid acquisitions.

Jackie Fisher, a senior product manager at Polydor, says: "Music has got to become more exciting if it is going to compete with games." But pop groups, perhaps lacking their own ideas, are trying to get in on the game mania: youth rappers Kriss Kross have been photographed looking tough in a derelict playground, holding Sega handsets. Polydor proposes a new partnership between games and music, and one of their singers, Cathy Dennis, has made a cassette of tips on how to play the games, with her new album playing meekly behind.

Ms Fisher points out the possibilities of future co-operation between pop and video games: "There are dance acts and heavy metal acts whose imagery and graphics match the games. You could have the heavy metal band Bon Jovi doing a soundtrack to 'Megadeath 3'." Meanwhile, Nintendo has released two hit singles based on games, and Sonic the hedgehog released his own record, "Super Sonic".

Record shops have been forced to open their stores to video games, to the fury of record companies, who argue that the part of the shop given over to games used to be reserved for new, untried bands. But the joint venture is paying off: the W H Smith group, which includes Our Price, suffered a 3 per cent fall in music sales, against a 14 per cent rise in sales of video games, for 1991-2.

Publishers are having to fight their corner against an onslaught of new video games titles — a lurid selection splattered with colourful violence and teenage smut, which review the new games and tell you how to cheat. Alan Lewis at IPC, the publisher of *NME*, *VOX* and *Melody Maker*, claims that their readers, at an average age of 19, are older than most buyers of computer games and magazines. But IPC has had to compromise: *NME* invites pop groups to review new video games.

The all-consuming cult of video games is said to have led to a backlash. But far from marking the beginning of the end for these expensive, addictive machines, most parents would acknowledge that obsessive and unsociable behaviour is quite normal for teenagers. Instead of suffering hours of screaming guitar solos, modern parents are exposed to nothing more serious than a continual bleeping little tune.

Record company spokesmen wearily say that the pop industry has faced threats from other forms of entertainment — television, home video, ram-raiding — and has always survived. But technological developments make it unlikely that games will disappear with the next fad. In a few years' time, playing games will be like directing your own feature-length cartoon. Children may become inarticulate and fat, and they may never have played an imaginary guitar, but they will be a generation of Walt Disneys.

CLARE LONGRIGG

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Lynne Truss



■ Did I ever endorse my parents' smoking? As a passive smoker, can I now sue them?

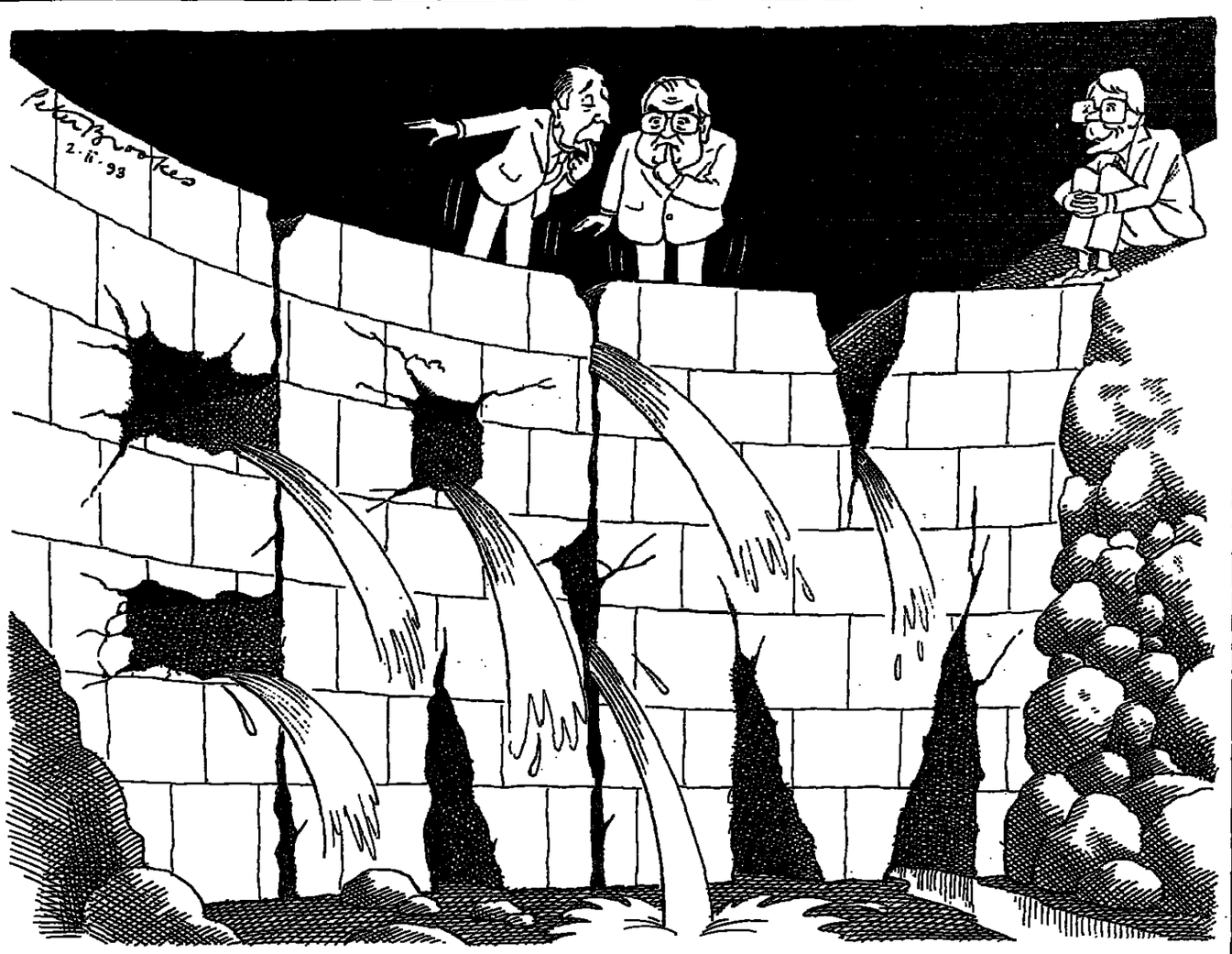
Hand me that legal aid application form. And lend me that pen. After years of cudgelling my brains for a suitable way of expressing my resentment at growing up in a house filled with tobacco smoke, I have finally hit upon the perfect solution. I shall sue them, take them to court, fleece them for every penny. Ha, let them put *that* in their pipes. According to the Sunday papers, children subjected to chronic passive smoking can now obtain legal redress for their long-term bronchial problems, and there will be a kind of wheezers' revolt. The courtroom picture is irresistible. I can see it now: the plaintiff (me) in the witness box, coughing delicately into a linen hanky, and pointing the bony finger of blame; and the rest of them in the dock, huddled together under a yellow mantle of tobacco smoke, doing a group impression of Auld Reekie with the wind in the East.

The only trouble with this happy fancy is that my case could easily be knocked down by a few simple questions from a skilled counsel. For example, were my family in fact ignorant of the dangers of tobacco smoke when I was a child? "Yes, probably," I mumble (into my sputum cup). "A little louder," they command. "Yes," I repeat. Did I ever encourage their smoking habits myself? "I did," I reply miserably. "I bought them novelty ashtrays." The judge raises an eyebrow, looks confused. "For example, I bought an ashtray at the seaside shaped like a ram's head, with the words 'For Butts' written on it. B U double T S. It was a pun, my lord. Also, I begged to be allowed to make roll-ups in a little silver machine. And whenever the Bob Newhart monologue about Sir Walter Raleigh's discovery of tobacco was broadcast on the Light Programme — " (here I break down in penitent sobs) " — I used to laugh with everyone else at the bit where he says 'Don't tell me, Walt. You stick it in your ear'."

Passive smoking is something I feel so strongly about that I want to set fire to the tea towels, yet strangely at the same time I find it impossible to make a stand about it retrospectively, especially on the home front. Will people really take their families to court? I don't believe it. How can you argue with people who, despite the advance of science, despite the warnings on the packets, and despite the fact that coroners now record smoking as a cause of death, keep puffing on the little white sticks and refusing to feel bad about it? Such fierce stupidity is intimidating. To the non-smoker, the behaviour of smoker families tells you quite unambiguously that if you've got a problem with this, then the problem is yours and you can keep it. If it makes you want to spit, then there you are.

So where my own relatives are concerned I do my smoking very passively indeed. While they light up repeatedly, I fantasise about strapping a battery-driven fan to my forehead, and yelling above the din "Can't hear you! Got the fan going!" — but unfortunately this helps only as a mental distraction. As a concrete act of defiance, I did once purchase an amusing T-shirt with a Larson cartoon on it ("The real reason dinosaurs became extinct" — showing a collection of prehistoric beasts furtively taking quick drags like schoolboys). But although I have worn this provocative garment twice to family gatherings, on both occasions I hastily obscured it with a jumper, so that it wouldn't cause offence or start a row.

Of course it is in the Bible, all this. "The fathers have eaten sour grapes; the children's teeth are set on edge." I don't remember how the next bit goes, but it's probably something like "Tough banana, saith the Lord." I am convinced that even the deity of the Old Testament, with his avenging tooth-for-a-tooth system of justice would have advised against litigation in this case, on grounds of crushing futility. "Car fumes are more dangerous," say the smokers, airily; "There is a higher chance of dying from a stray microwave." Angry as I am about spending my school years feverishly coughing and hawking into lavatory bowls, I know what I am up against, and I know when I am beaten. If they won't admit they are poisoning themselves, these people, what earthly chance have I got that they'll admit to poisoning me?



Justice and prejudice

Why should anyone worry if a judge is gay or straight, when all that matters is that the bench is fair and dispassionate

Bernard Levin

An enquiry has been going on in Scotland, into allegations that there was a ring of homosexual judges and lawyers over the border who, while getting up to their lubricious shenanigans were also getting together to pervert the course of justice. This story broke almost exactly three years ago, though an enquiry was set up only last September, no doubt to ensure that passions, if you understand me, would cool, or at least to make certain that rude fingers were no longer being pointed at half the Scottish judiciary and most of the other half as well.

When the allegations were flying, in January 1990, I could not resist joining in (when, alas, have I ever resisted joining in any kind of uproar?), and I fingered, as the judges who dug with the left foot, Lord Justice McRentboy, Lord Justice McNancy, Lord Justice Gay-McDisco and Lord Justice McStable-Relationship, but only one of the group, whom I did *not* name, left the country.

Now the belated enquiry has reported; the specific allegations this time, that the decisions in a number of cases were decided for improper reasons (meaning that Sir Hamish McBottomsup, QC, having to prosecute one of his homosexual mates, had made sure of an acquittal by losing the evidence) have been thoroughly examined and found to be baseless. That, of course, only means that Lord Justice McFaggot can now breathe easily.

Scottish judges have been far behind the rest of the country in the sympathy or even the understanding of homosexuals, and I had attacked their blindness and bigotry, using as my weapon the case of John Saunders. I wrote in detail about his case in 1980, when it started (and failed). Then, in 1990, when the first lot of allegations concerning juicy goings-on in the Scottish law world were just surfacing, I brought him back on to the stage. Now, another three years on, more such whispers can be heard, so I think it is time I turned back to the case of the man who sought Scottish justice and was denied it.

John Saunders was a homosexual who neither concealed nor flaunted his sexual orientation: he was a bandyman in a children's residential camp, and had been there for two years. His work and behaviour were beyond reproach, as was accepted by everyone in the story. He had no criminal record, nor had anyone complained about his conduct; moreover, his work did not entail mingling with the children. Nevertheless, he was dismissed, and those who dismissed him admitted they had done so because, and only because, he was a homosexual. (Homosexuality had, of course, long been decriminalised.)

He took his case to the Scottish equivalent of the industrial tribunal. The result was almost unbelievable; although it was fully accepted on both sides that no blame of any kind attached to him, it was held that some people (none was produced) might think that he was a risk. The tribunal upheld his dismissal.

He went to the courts, which had the power to override the tribunal. If ever was there a case in which that power should have been exercised, it was that of Mr Saunders. Exercising nothing but homophobic injustice, the courts refused his plea.

I do not know how many judges, English or Scottish, are homosexuals; nor do I wish to know. None has "come out", except for the one who resigned during the 1990 episode, and even he was "outed". Nor do I wish to announce the number of homosexual Members of Parliament; only one of the couple of dozen has come out.

Be it so. But when will it end? For I did not come here only to alight on the page with nothing in my hands but the latest doings of the ridiculous homosexual-legal mafia and the thrice-told story of John Saunders. Across the Atlantic, the subject has reared its head, and growled. There, the newly inaugurated president is facing his first fight, and that it should be a fight over homosexuality, of all things, is itself a pointer to the way the United States is going.

The argument is over a pledge given by President Clinton that when he was installed in the White House, his first action would be a ruling that from now on, homosexuals would be eligible to serve in the American forces, as hitherto they have not been. And opposition to this is already vocal and powerful.

Here comes the first damn silly question: how do you tell a homosexual from a heterosexual, if he doesn't tell you and doesn't behave in public as Lord Justice McQueer does in private?

Second damn silly question: does anybody in America, on either side of the argument, believe that despite the ban there have never been and are not now homosexuals in the US army, navy and airforce?

Third damn silly question: does anyone similarly believe that among the homosexuals in the armed forces at present there aren't any army or airforce generals and admirals?

Fourth and last damn silly question: Has not the US got better things to with its time, especially its president's time?

General Colin (pronounced Colin) Powell, field commander of the forces in the Gulf war, might be thought to have interesting opinions on the subject of prejudice, segregation and unjust treatment, seeing that he is black. And indeed his opinion on this question is interesting, though not altogether clear; he is firmly opposed to homosexual entry into the armed forces of his country.

The general was born in 1937; if, as a child, he dreamed of serving his country in its army, he must have had a *frisson* of pleasure, pride and hope when he was 12, because that was when President Truman ordered an immediate end to the segregation of black from white in the armed services, which until then had been defended with a vigour and passion worthy of a better cause.

Before that barrier fell, did the black soldiers, airmen and sailors fight less well or less bravely in the second world war? Try telling that to my friends of the 369th transport division; you'll get some sharp answers, many of them from the grave. Is there really any difference between *that* prejudice and *this*, between those who enlist with black skins and those who do so with a sexual orientation different from most people?

They will behave badly in the barracks, say the opponents of the move. Oh, yes? And has there never been a drunken smash-up in barracks by the straightest of the straight? They will demand "Gay rights", say those who find the proposal abhorrent. Oh, yes? And have not "lower-deck lawyers" turned white the hair of many a chief petty officer with their rule-based complaints? They will try to seduce upright heterosexuals into their vile ways, say the folk who think such behaviour worthy only of the fires of hell. Oh, yes? And have there not, from time to time, been fighting men who enticed young girls into the bushes, from which no virginity returns? (And does no one remember the Theban Band — the greatest fighting men in history, and homosexuals all?)

There is never so great a resistance to any measure than when it is about to be given up." (B. Levin, I think.) In my lifetime I have seen countless examples of this crucial truth. On my first visit to the United States, I was amazed to find restaurants and hotels — of the highest quality and of the shabbiest — which would not take blacks, and could not be compelled by law to do so. A few years later, when the barriers had been thrown down, I found that in talking to Americans, it was wise to avoid the subject, so shamefaced were most of them. A few more years of visiting America, and the subject could be discussed without pain, because it seemed to them that the olden days — very recent olden days they were — must have been a dream, from which they had awoken. And now, I do not have to talk about the subject at all.

It will be thus, too, with homosexuality in the American armed forces. One day, the toughest and most seasoned brass will look back in wonder to the days when no known homosexual was permitted to serve his country in its armed forces because, and only because, he was a homosexual. As for the homosexuals who now wish to join the forces, I do assure them that patience will certainly prevail in time. Though it would be better if the president were to prevail now.

Europe's bank robber

Nicholas Ridley on why the ERM is almost dead

It was a happy weekend. The exchange-rate mechanism claimed its fifth victim — the Irish punt. Britain, Italy, Spain and Portugal have all been forced out or have devalued. Finland and Sweden, although not EC members, have also been forced out. The ERM's next two victims are likely to be the French franc and the Danish krone. I look forward with particular pleasure to the franc's demise.

Like everyone else, Irish ministers have blamed the standard scapegoats. First, the speculators; second, the "system", which needs "reforming"; and finally, the real villain, the Bundesbank.

Of course it is not the speculators' fault. The foreign-exchange markets handle daily billions of dollars worth of transactions by governments, companies and financial institutions which have firm views about the values of currencies. Nor is the "system" capable of reform. It is a system based on the fallacy that national economies can be made to converge by fixing exchange rates. They cannot.

So the poor old Bundesbank gets the real blame. But the Bundesbank is merely doing its job as laid down in its statutes. It has to manage the German interest rate for the sole purpose of giving Germany a stable, low inflation currency. That is what it has done, and done well. It understands its statutory duty requires it to keep German interest rates high at this time in order to bring the broad measure of money supply under control.

The Bundesbank is "independent" of politicians. It cannot be influenced by German politicians, nor Irish ones for that matter. The same "experts" who urged us to join the ERM in 1990 are now all clamouring for us to make the Bank of England "independent" from politicians too. Using the word "politicians" here is pejorative of course. It implies that irresponsible vote-hunting ministers manipulate interest rates in order to win elections. Central bankers on the other hand are said to be stern, incorruptible and highly professional people who can be relied upon not to tolerate inflation.

The Bundesbank is independent only in relation to the German interest rate. It does not have policy responsibility for the value of the mark in the foreign exchange markets. It is the German government which has: the Bundesbank merely carries out "intervention" in the foreign exchange markets in order to implement the government's policy in relation to the ERM or other international currency agreements.

The links between national debt management, interest rates, exchange rates and intervention, are extremely close. Serious confusion follows if different authorities are responsible for different parts, as the German experience has shown. At the time of unification the politicians fixed a rate of exchange of one mark for one ostmark against the advice of the Bundesbank. It had disastrous results. The German government has often tried, and failed, to get the Bundesbank to reduce interest rates in order to relieve the pressures in the ERM, but the bank is indifferent to exchange rates and the ERM is no constraint upon it. The mark is the linchpin of the system, the other currencies have to follow where the mark goes. The conflict is serious and damaging.

Another example of this conflict is the attempt by the Commission to design a European central bank. It is to be "independent" in fixing the ecu interest rate, but managing the exchange rate of the ecu appears to be the joint responsibility of the Council of Finance Ministers, the Commission and the European central bank. How three authorities are ever going to agree policy beats me; but the important point is that the function is considered to be too important and too political to be left to the central bank. The idea of independent central bankers making arrangements to float or fix the ecu in relation to the dollar and the yen is too much even for Jacques Delors.

It is too much for me too. The idea that the governor of the Bank of England might have the "independent" power to decide whether sterling joined the ERM or not, is surely unthinkable.

Interest rates and exchange rates are the very heart of economic policy, getting them wrong can lead to hyperinflation, or to the deepest of slumps. An act such as joining the ERM, which cost us over a million jobs, and lost us 4 per cent of our gross national product must be subject to political accountability. It would cause a revolution if the elected government could simply say that a boom or a slump was nothing to do with them, because an "independent" central bank had brought it about. Surely the ERM experience is conclusive evidence against independent central banks?

It can be argued that the present government has not paid the political price of its disastrous mistakes in economic policy. That is so, and the person to blame is John Smith. Instead of criticising he has actually supported the wrong policies. Any Opposition worth its salt would have had John Major out by now.

Instead of searching for scapegoats it would be healthy if Europe's leaders could learn the lessons of what has happened. Fixing currency values does not work. Thus neither the ERM nor the single European currency can work. It is folly to press on with either.

Lord Ridley was Conservative MP for Cirencester and Tewkesbury 1959-92.

Look you elsewhere

WALES — subsidised manufacturing outpost of Japan or thriving free market economy? That is the sort of economic conundrum that Professor Patrick Minford will be addressing over the next five years.

That is if the good professor can see off a rising tide of opposition to the appointment of such a leading free market economist to a principality where state intervention is very much *dai rigueur*.

Some 50 Labour MPs have tabled a Commons motion deploring the decision of Cardiff Business School, which is part of the city's university, to employ Minford on a five-year part-time research contract worth up to £250,000.

Their concern is understandable. Minford's appointment unites him with fellow free marketeer Tim Congdon, who is already a visiting professor at Cardiff. Both were recently recruited to the band of "seven wise men" advising the Treasury.

Wales, Minford admits, is an unlikely home for an economist who has spent a lifetime lecturing against the evils of state intervention. "I take your point. But the business school is very free market. And Wales will not be such a challenge as you think. At least the subsidies have been used well and helped to attract new and dynamic industries."

Minford, who will retain his economics chair at Liverpool, was not surprised he had angered Labour MPs. "They do not seem to understand the principle of academic freedom." Not so, says Rhodri Morgan, Labour MP for Cardiff West: "We do understand it. But with Congdon already there, the school will be heavily identified with one extreme faction, which will discourage other economists from applying to Cardiff."

Professor Roger Mansfield, the director of the business school, has written to Morgan to object to the motion. "Professor Minford's views, I accept, do not find favour with Labour MPs. But it is extraordinary that they have used Parliament to challenge an academic decision taken by an academic institution."

Minford refuses to be distracted by the growing row. "I like Wales." But he draws the line at learning the language. "I think I will concentrate on economics."

● *James Baily, conqueror of the junior Australian Open, is due home today and is presumably in the mood for celebrations. But neither the David Lloyd centre in Raynes Park, where he is coached, nor the Lawn Tennis Association seems to have much planned. According to the LTA's spokeswoman Helen Tooms, this is normal practice. "Because the players take their sport so seriously, and are often under such a tight schedule they simply can't afford to celebrate." Given the recent dearth of British tennis champions, surely we can't afford not to?*

Platt du jour

JOHN Major will have to move fast in the race to sue *The New Statesman and Society*. He is only third in the queue and Steve Platt, the editor, has given a warning that any successful legal action will bankrupt the magazine.

Christopher Brasher, organiser of the London marathon, is first in line. In September 1990 he issued writs against the magazine and its chairman, Duncan Campbell, after allegations about the finances of the marathon. Brasher says: "I will not drop my action whether they say the magazine will shut or not."

David Hill, director of communications of the Labour party, is next and will sue unless the magazine apologises for allegations that he leaked an internal party report. Fortunately for Major, Lord Tebbit and Lord Harris, founder of the Bruges Group, have decided not to pursue their respective actions. But Brasher is confident of beating the prime minister: "I should be first over the finishing line."

Punt poet

AS THE Irish come to terms with the devaluation of the punt, one of the Republic's best known poets, Patrick Galvin, has already penned a lament to the battered currency. Galvin has sent the verse, *An Ode to the Punt*, to Bertie Ahern, the Irish finance minister.

It is clear from just one verse that the poet, who has never been a fan of the EC, does not hold the Irish government responsible:

"The punt is down, the blood is up,
the Maastricht Treaty rustles;
and Dracula is alive and well,
and cleans his teeth in Brussels."

Galvin, who is working on the third part of his autobiography, says: "I wrote it within minutes of the decision being announced. There is one consolation for us. At least devaluation should not affect the price of Guinness."

● *A poignant moment at the Australia Day Gala at the Royal Opera House on Sunday when the soprano Yvonne Kenny sang "Let the Bright Seraphim", the aria from Handel's Samson. Guest of honour was the Prince of Wales, who was sitting next to Jeremy Isaacs, general director of the opera house. Few in the audience failed to realise that the aria was the one sung by Dame Kiri Te Kanawa at the royal wedding at St Paul's Cathedral.*

Devil's advocate

TONIGHT'S debate at the Cambridge Union Society on the motion "This house believes that religion does more harm than good" should make for strong theatre. One of the principal speakers, the Rt Rev John Taylor, former Bishop of Winchester, is proposing the motion by mistake.

Last autumn, when the union's president Ben Elkington invited Taylor to participate he omitted to mention what stand he wished Taylor to take. Taylor says he wrote back "asking whether they wanted me to vote for or against, rather assuming that they wanted me to vote against. But I also said no one could deny that there was a good case to be made for it."

Elkington, he says, "was provoked by my response and so asked me to propose the motion". He is nervous about giving away his argument, saying only: "I will draw a distinction between the experiences of illumination, from which faith comes and the system which has to exist, which we know as religion . . . it's the first time I've ever debated and I am rather nervous. I had to go to Oxford last term to see how it was done. I may make a complete fool of myself."



هكذا من الأصل

NO POINTS FOR TRUTH

Downing Street displays poor political skills — again

The prime minister has wrested control of economic policy from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. We know this to be so because 10 Downing Street "categorically denies" it. Following a *Sunday Times* story outlining John Major's move and his alleged plan to cut interest rates by 2 percentage points, the prime minister's office agonised for 18 hours then felt obliged to challenge the charges one by one. Rarely has a rebuttal sounded so hollow.

Downing Street had every reason to dampen speculation about interest rates. Even if Mr Major does want to knock one point off rates at the Budget and another point later, there is no point in telling the markets now. Indeed a run on the pound would only make such a cut less likely. After *The Sunday Times* ran a story in 1976 claiming that the International Monetary Fund thought the pound was overvalued against the dollar, sterling was savaged by the markets. No government likes its monetary policy to be determined by reaction to stories in the press, even if they are true.

But merely to address the matter of the prime minister's position *vis-à-vis* his Chancellor showed political ineptitude of the sort all too associated with this government since the general election. The relationship between the occupants of 10 and 11 Downing Street is inevitably complex and entangled. The two men live next to each other; the prime minister is titular First Lord of the Treasury as well as being a former Chancellor; and, since the economy dominates political debate, it would be bizarre if Mr Major were not closely involved in the details of economic policy.

Moreover Mr Major has, in any case, deliberately seized the reins on a number of occasions over the past few months. The shift to a strategy for growth just before the Autumn Statement was announced by the prime minister, not the Chancellor, at a lobby briefing and subsequently confirmed by him publicly. Mr Major's prickly denial of the *Sunday Times* story after a meeting with Mr Lamont merely serves to confirm what most people had suspected all along: that the Chancellor is politically weak, does what his master tells him to do, and remains in his job only on sufferance.

Conflicts over policy between Chancellors and their prime ministers can be extremely damaging, as was proved by the numerous spats and eventual feud between Lord Lawson and Baroness Thatcher. If there is deep disagreement between Mr Lamont and Mr Major, therefore, the Chancellor should go at once. Nothing could be served by his continuing in office and having his views countermanded by his boss. But if there is not a rift, why are both men so sensitive about their relationship?

The reason, of course, is that Mr Lamont has lost all credibility, both in the City and at Westminster. Mr Major has refrained from sacking him; but that decision merely reflects the prime minister's determination not to look as if he is obeying the newspapers. It was notable that the Downing Street statement contained no expression of confidence in Mr Lamont.

By linking the issue of the Chancellor's position with the future direction of interest rates, Downing Street has managed to achieve precisely the opposite of its intention. It has thrown into confusion its whole economic policy, which was never exactly clear in the first place. Yesterday's 3½ cent fall in the pound reflected City uncertainty about what the government really stands for. This muddle is hardly surprising. Having denied one story that was clearly true, the other rebuttal looked equally suspect.

ONE MAN IN A BOAT

Africa's would-be democrats deserve more Western attention

President Mobuto Sese Seko of Zaire, one of the world's richest and most ruthless men, spends his days floating in a steamboat on what was once the River Congo, hiding from his enemies and handing out worthless banknotes to his warriors. Africa has always been a fount of powerful images for the European mind, from missionaries in cooking pots to the pot-bellied children of Ethiopia, but few pictures have better caught the continent's crisis of authority than Mr Mobuto on his boat.

Last weekend, while angry Zaïrean soldiers were sending foreigners fleeing across the river, deserters in Togo were pillaging shops and shooting civilians. Ceasefire talks on Angola collapsed. Kenya came closer to civil war. And in Somalia sounded the dull throb of anxiety about what will happen when the American troops go home. It is not a good time for Westerners who feel bound by deep sentiment to Africa and wonder where, if anywhere, their responsibility lies.

Response to the plight of those dying from famine and drought is perhaps the easiest. This vast problem is not confined to the Horn of Africa. Namibia reports that its water reservoirs are only 18 per cent full, and the ground is too dry to guarantee the survival of many crops. In Botswana, it may take ten years to restore the cattle herds; in Zimbabwe, which in good years can supply food to its neighbours, the maize and the sugar crops are threatened.

Famine relief is an essential human effort. But a broader responsibility must go beyond that. Although the time needed may be depressingly long, a sense of civil society must be encouraged inside the continent's authoritarian states. Policy towards Africa should be akin to Western approaches to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union in the Brezhnev years. Minimal, though productive contacts should be maintained with African leaders, even those with rather dubious legitimacy. At the same time every possible attempt should be made to build up autonomous, pro-democratic forces.

There are many points of comparison between the Soviet Union of Brezhnev and Andropov, and the Zaïre of Mr Mobutu. The Zairean political police have borrowed their venomous interrogation techniques from those of the former Soviet intelligence services and Idi Amin's Bureau of State Research. The army, the source of the present unrest, has played its part in repressing the population. The weaker the administration of the state, the greater is the need to intimidate.

But Zaïre, like the states of communist Eastern Europe in the 1980s, is not a monolith; there are dynamic forces in the country that need to be fostered and given muscle if here, as in so many parts of Africa, nation states are to make a successful and lasting transition to democracy. An entrepreneurial class has survived the various crises resulting from Mr Mobutu's crude economic management. The weak administrative centre and the manifold flaws in the official economy have spurred on these businessmen. Mr Mobutu has left a space for these people and it should be exploited.

There are other hopeful signs in the country. Courageous magistrates sometimes reach judgments that are critical of the regime, despite Mr Mobutu's inclination to devise his own haphazard rules and punishments. The churches in Zaïre — as in communist Eastern Europe — also provide a focus for opposition or at least raise challenging questions. These are the seeds of a thinking, critical society and they deserve Western attention alongside the images of tyrants afloat and children in terrible need.

ROYAL POST

Even privatised stamps should display the monarch's head

When the world's first adhesive postage stamp was issued in 1840, its designer, Sir Rowland Hill, insisted that it bear the majestic profile of Queen Victoria. Such a motif, he reasoned, would be a counterfeiter's nightmare since the queen's devoted subjects would at once detect any distortion of the royal likeness.

This shrewd decision spawned a noble connection between the British postal service, which now delivers 61 million letters a day, and the monarchy. In the century and a half since the first Penny Black and Twopenny Blue, every British stamp has borne the profile of the sovereign: for 62 years in Queen Victoria's case, and 11 years longer in Australia.

Her successors, several of them keen philatelists, have taken this discreet responsibility seriously. Edward VIII was concerned enough to insist that the postage stamp depicted his better side; and Tony Benn's efforts as postmaster-general in 1965 "to do a little Disraeli" on the Queen and reduce the number of stamps bearing the royal profile made little impact.

Yet this benign tradition of public service endorsed by royalty may now be in peril. Already, the parcel service has been given the muscular name Parcelforce and will soon be privatised. Other sections of the Post Office are likely to be sold off before the next general election in a £5 billion flotation. The letters service, which already makes a handsome profit, may be better run in five years' time; but will it still be royal? In his worthy (and open-minded) efforts to improve efficiency in the postal service, Michael Heseltine, president of the board of trade, should keep half an eye on the value of customary practice. To revolutionise gas and electricity supplies is one thing. But to reform the Royal Mail is to tamper with a rich tradition which stretches from William Dockwra's London Penny Post in the early 1680s, via Anthony Trollope's introduction of the pillar box in 1852, to the modern computerised vending machine.

Stamps, like coins, are part of a nation's fabric and identity, capable, *in extremis*, of sparking violence as they did in a 1930s war between Paraguay and Bolivia. In republican America, an 1866 act of Congress forbids the portrayal of living persons on postage stamps. In contrast, the depiction of the sovereign on British stamps has become a symbol of a nation bound by constant communication and a service which charges no more for a letter to the Isle of Skye than for a letter across town.

In the first 35 years of her reign, the Queen appeared on 8,700 separate issues in the Commonwealth, 1,000 of them in Britain. No figure outside the royal family appeared on a British stamp until 1964 when Shakespeare was finally admitted to the philatelic pantheon. Mr Heseltine is right to explore the commercial future of the mail service; but the Post Office should not lose its royal stamp.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

'Back-door' sale of imported wines

From Mr Richard Wheeler

Sir, You report (January 25) that customs officers are arresting licencees who are importing beers and wines which have been subjected only to lesser French duties.

As chairman and managing director of one of the major privately-owned wine merchants in the United Kingdom, I view with astonishment the government's apparent lack of interest following the lowering of tariff barriers throughout the European Community from January 1.

British wine merchants are forced to absorb tax charges of £1.11 on every bottle of wine (duty plus VAT on that duty) compared with the French duty charges of between 2p and 9p per bottle.

The French, who are convinced that the British government has taken leave of its senses, are building warehouses and shops to cope with the influx of British trade, to the disadvantage of this country.

While HM Customs may be vigilant, it is obvious that many private travellers returning to this country will sell part of their importation: we have clear evidence that since January 1 wines, spirits and canned beers are being offered in Essex at car boot sales. Private sales will become very big business.

There is no doubt that an illegal trade is developing, with people importing for sale "through the back door" to restaurants and pubs wines on which British duty has not been paid, and that UK companies will not be able to compete on price.

When my great-great-great uncle set up this business in 1854 he would not have been believed that I would see the day when a British government would cripple successful British companies by such short-sighted bureaucratic incompetence as we are witnessing here. It is essential that the Chancellor in his Budget should move rapidly towards equalisation of duty.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WHEELER
(Chairman and Managing Director),
Lay & Wheeler Ltd.,
6 Culver Street West,
Colchester, Essex.
January 27.

PM's libel suit

From the Editor of the New Statesman

Sir, In contrast to many newspapers, *The Times* has, in general, provided a fair and balanced coverage of our article in this week's issue of the *New Statesman*. I was disappointed, therefore, to read Simon Jenkins's assertion ("Sex, lies and political gossip", January 30) that our magazine "has repeated unsubstantiated Westminster gossip to get itself publicity". That is not so.

I believe that anyone reading the article in question, as opposed to some of the ensuing press reporting of it, can be left in no doubt that it was an honest and responsible attempt to uncover a smear, not to further it.

Is it right that sly innuendo and gossip can circulate in the circles of the political and media cognoscenti, and appear in oblique allusions in print and on television persistently for a period of two years, with the prime minister being powerless to prevent it, while our attempt at an open and honest exposure of this rumour-mongering should attract a writ from Mr Major and such opprobium from the press?

Publicity was not our aim in publishing this article; nor would it have been achieved had it not been for the prime minister's unprecedented and wholly unnecessary reaction.

The article did indeed appear in our redesigned (not relaunched) issue of the *New Statesman*. The timing, however, was intended to coincide with the Commons debate yesterday on Clive Soley's Freedom and Responsibility of the Press Bill. The article was a serious contribution to public discussion on that issue.

Yours sincerely,
STEVE PLATT,
Editor, *New Statesman*,
Foundation House,
Perseverance Works,
38 Kingsland Road, E2.
January 30.

Press intrusion

From Mr Robert Rhodes, QC

Sir, I hope that I am not alone amongst your readers in being utterly disgusted by the callous insensitivity of the press (as appears from your report today) in harrying Sir Allan Green, the former director of public prosecutions, on his own doorstep within hours of the tragic death of his wife.

The public may indeed have "a right to know", but one would have thought that it would not be too much to ask for some slight restraint before intruding on a man's grief.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT RHODES,
2 Crown Office Row, Temple, EC4.
February 1.

Business letters, page 25

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Nursing care at whose expense?

From Dr N. G. Armand Smith

Sir, Mr Anthony Charlier (letter, January 28), in describing his client's instructions to transfer the house to the children so as to ensure that future nursing care in old age would be at the state's expense, raises the much more fundamental question of what health care the NHS (the state) should be providing.

What is the difference between having your hernia repaired, or your cancer treated, or having a coronary artery bypass graft, and the treatment of your dementia? At first sight none, except that hernia operations, cancer treatment and heart operations are provided by the NHS at no charge to the sufferer whilst care and treatment for many people with dementia can be obtained only through private nursing homes.

If you have dementia and you are very poor the state will pay. Equally, if you are rich you can pay yourself. If you are a dementia sufferer and hold an occupational pension, because of social security rules which oblige you to pay for your accommodation your spouse may well be left without enough to live on and his or her health may be threatened. The new community care arrangements will bring no change, as it appears that the social service departments will be operating the same DSS contribution rules.

More than ever before there is a need for a fundamental public debate as to what the NHS will and will not provide. It cannot be fair that people who have been paying through taxation for 45 years find that in their time of need their insurance policy has been reneged on.

If the state will not pay it should say so. It should be clear that if, for example, you have dementia or a similar terminal illness you may be on your own, but if you have a hernia or varicose veins the state will pay for treatment.

In 1982 the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys estimated that there were some 3.36 million people aged 75 and over in the United Kingdom. By 1992 the total had risen to about four million, with a forecast of 4.44 million by the year 2002. A public debate is well overdue.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS ARMAND SMITH
(President, Association of Directors of Public Health),
Salisbury District Hospital,
Odstock, Salisbury, Wiltshire.
January 28.

From Mrs Glenis Wright

Sir, In response to Mr Anthony Charlier's question of morality in the matter of aged parents transferring assets to their children, I think the more pertinent question is how much so many private retirement homes charge for the services provided.

At several hundred pounds a week it takes only a few years to exhaust capital that may have been carefully acquired over many years of hard work. If one has two aged parents the prospect is even worse.

I would suggest that being forced to spend perhaps as much as £20,000 a year on nursing home fees would make any parent consider passing the family house on to the children. I shall certainly consider it when my time comes.

Yours sincerely,
GLENIS M. WRIGHT,
10 Leabrook Close,
Clifton Village, Nottingham.
January 28.

Special-care babies

From Mrs Cessa Moore

Sir, Your article, "A small matter of survival" (January 21), on the report of the Office of Health Economics, a research group financed by the drugs industry, not a government department, questions the economics of saving the lives of very low-birthweight babies (under 3lb 4oz or 1,500g), the average cost of which in 1990 was said to be £20,000.

Parents with babies in special care or who are waiting to have what they know will be a premature delivery must have read this with dismay. It was heartwarming to see that the accompanying article portrayed the success story of several low-birthweight children.

The survival rate of low-birthweight and very premature babies is improving all the time, and the rate of disability among such children gets lower each year. In 1974 my daughter was delivered at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, weighing 1lb 6oz (630g). She is now a healthy, active girl working for her A levels.

In the four months she was in special care we were aware that not only all the staff from the professor to the youngest midwife were totally dedicated to giving her a chance to survive, but in caring for her they were gaining vital knowledge. The technology and expertise now available make 1974 look like the Dark Ages, but there was never any doubt that they would try.

Of course, not all such babies survive. But to use careless phrases such as "many babies are salvaged only to become handicapped" is reprehensible and does not reflect the true picture. Such attitudes will destroy the confidence of parents, and would be a retrograde step in the care of the newborn premature baby of low birthweight.

Yours faithfully,
CESSA MOORE (Trustee, Support for the Sick Newborn and their Parents,
John Radcliffe Maternity Hospital),
Shucknall Court, Hereford.
January 22.

From Mr Andrew Brereton

Sir, My five-year-old son has severe generalised cerebral palsy. Whilst he is unable to do the things that other children can do, he positively enjoys his life, and is cheerful, and at times unbelievably happy.

Some would say it should be a mere accounting decision as to whether children are allowed to live or not. This seems to be an inhuman, if not a preposterous, suggestion.

Of any ten premature babies in a hospital ward, it would be a brave doctor who could predict precisely which babies would develop disabilities and which would not. Or are we going to terminate the entire batch so that we ensure that no handicapped babies get through?

It is not a matter for accountants to decide whose life to save or not, but a matter for doctors in partnership with parents.

To countless families each day the fact that their handicapped child is with them is a joy, even if it is traumatic and exhausting.

Yours sincerely,
A. BRERETON,
38 Westminster Street,
Crewe, Cheshire.

Gallantry award

From Mr Mike Langley

Sir, The *Ritterkreuz*, being a Nazi award, was not esteemed by Axel von dem Bussche (obituary, January 29). He dismissed it, in an interview with me during 1985, as "that thing you wear round the neck; there were thousands of them. (In fact, 7,200.) The British VC is certainly rarer, although the oak leaves to the Knight's Cross might correspond."

He was perhaps uniquely a member of a family whose branches encompassed both a Knight's Cross and a Victoria Cross. The latter was awarded posthumously in 1945 to his Danish first cousin, Major Anders Lassen, of the British Special Air Service Regiment (SAS), who won the VC and three Military Crosses.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE LANGLEY
(Chief Sports Columnist),
Daily Mirror, Holborn Circus, EC1.

Control of education

From Dr Richard Aldrich

Sir, "Why don't people feel they own state education as they feel they own the health service?" was the question posed by the Education Secretary, John Patten, in Valerie Grove's interview ("State education can be saved. Discuss", January 22), as he waved before her the latest "fat, grey education bill, 'the longest in history with 255 clauses'."

Could it be because the major theme in recent educational legislation has been a massive increase in control and ownership by the politicians of central government?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD ALDRICH,
University of London,
Institute of Education,
Department of History, Humanities and Philosophy,
20 Bedford Way, WC1.
January 22.

Signs of the times

From Mr Alan Millar

Sir, Let's face it, banks just aren't much good at apostrophes (Mr James Morgan's letter, January 26). In insurance Lloyd's might have lost its names a fortune but at least its title is grammatically accurate.

In Whitehall the Royal Bank of Scotland has recently merged the business of its syntactically correct Holt's Branch with its sister bank, Drummonds Branch. And surely Lloyds and Barclays banks show just how careless they too are with the apostrophe?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN MILLAR,
Tigharra House, Hollybush Lane,
Pewsey, Wiltshire.
January 26.

From Ms Sue Pheasey

Sir, Presumably the employee who ordered the incorrect sign had been a greengrocer before joining the bank.

Yours faithfully,
SUE PHEASEY,
30 Broad Oaks Road,
Solihull, West Midlands.

From Mr James Morgan

Sir, Many thanks for publishing my letter on the unnecessary apostrophe chez NatWest on Tuesday. I heard yesterday that a representative of the bank's property department took away the offending signs on Wednesday, as soon as the bank opened.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES MORGAN,
20 Rectory Road, SW13.
January 29.

Flaws in law on dangerous dogs

From Ms Chrissie Nicholls

Sir, The British Veterinary Association supports the government's aim of protecting the public from dog attacks and agrees that it is important that the primary intention of the Dangerous Dogs Act should not be weakened (leading article, January 22).

But in addition to controlling the problem of "fighting" breeds the Act is being used to destroy family pets that have shown no signs of aggression. Dogs seized under the Act are being detained, at considerable public expense, for months on end in solitary confinement, not for what they have done but for what they appear to be.

The Dangerous Dogs Act has gone a long way to curbing the activities of the irresponsible minority whose actions brought it into being. It is high time however that some humanity was injected into the Act: hence the BVA's calls for reforms, not least returning to the courts the right to decide on an appropriate sentence, having considered all the facts.

The Dangerous Dogs Act, introduced as an emergency measure, is a classic example of instant solutions creating recurrent problems.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISSIE NICHOLLS
(Head of Veterinary Services),
British Veterinary Association,
7 Mansfield Street, W1.
January 22.

From Mr Clive Hollands

Sir, One can only be relieved that Judge Watts of Southwark Crown Court had the good sense and wisdom to overturn the magistrates' ruling that "Ozzy", a Staffordshire bull terrier, was "a type known as a pit bull terrier" and was therefore required to forfeit its life under the Dangerous Dogs Act (reports, January 22 and 23).

The trial cost an estimated £20,000 to £50,000 and was a colossal waste of police and court time. The agony of the owners, separated from their pet for many months whilst waiting to learn its fate, can be imagined — and Ozzy's was only one of many hundreds of similar cases.

The ineptitude of the Dangerous Dogs Act is surpassed only by the government's intransigence in refusing even to consider amending it.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby's private Bill to establish a dog control and welfare council has already completed its passage in the Lords and now awaits action in the Commons. Unfortunately, it can only succeed with government support.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE HOLLANDS
(Secretary),
The St Andrew Animal Fund,
10 Queensferry Street,
Edinburgh 12.
January 25.

Cracking the code

From Mrs Angela Treloar

Sir, Barrington Pheloung informs us that Inspector Morse's first name does not start with an E (report, January 22; Mr David Wolfson's letter, January 27).

I quote from Colin Dexter's Morse novel, *The Dead of Jericho*, chapter 13: "The E. M. entry on the Wednesday she'd died held his attention for a while . . . he could only think of one person with those same initials — himself. And he had never quite forgiven his parents for christening their only offspring as they had."

The mystery continues!

Yours faithfully,
A. M. TRELOAR,
5 Beech Close, Effingham,
Nr Leatherhead, Surrey.

Birthday surprise

From Mr R. L. Jones

Sir, I read (report, January 22) that a seriously ill person received a get-well card in an envelope franked with an undertaker's advertisement. I have just celebrated my 80th birthday in a satisfactory state of health, enjoying my friends' assurances that I am good for a few years yet.

My optimism has been shortlived in that the franking on one of my birthday card envelopes bore a telephone number and the message, "Funeral advice line for a local recommended funeral service".

Is this God's way of reminding me of the 90th Psalm, telling us we have three score years and ten and possibly four score, and dare I plan my summer holiday?

Yours faithfully,
R. L. JONES,
9 Cassiobury Park Avenue,
Watford, Hertfordshire.
January 23.

Punt up creek?

From Mr Andrew Charman

Sir, This morning I withdrew cash from an outer London branch of Barclays, using the automatic dispenser. The machine presented me with two Bank of Ireland £5 notes. What price the ERM?

Yours faithfully,
A. CHARMAN,
Flat 2, Sharpthorne House,
Top Road,
Sharpthorne, West Sussex.
February 1.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
February 1: The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Member, attended a Luncheon Meeting of the Rotary Club of King's Lynn, Dukes Head Hotel, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 1: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this morning attended the launch of "Doughnut 1993", Bakers Hall, Harp Lane, London EC3, and was received by the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor (Sir Francis McWilliams).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, afterwards visited the offices of the National Association of Victim Support Schemes, 39 Brixton Road, London SW9.

The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, this evening attended a Dinner for members of the Industrial Committee, Buck's Club, 18 Clifford Street, London W1.

Mrs Charles Ritchie was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 1: The Prince of Wales this morning received the Premier of Victoria, Australia (the Honourable Jeffrey Kennett).

His Royal Highness afterwards received the Rt Hon John Major, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury).

The Prince of Wales later attended a Luncheon with Commonwealth High Commissioners at Lancaster House, London SW1.

Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 1: Princess Alexandra this afternoon visited Perth to view recent flood damage and meet members of the relief organisations.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Perth and Kinross (Major Sir David Butter).

Rear Admiral Sir John Garnier was in attendance.

Dinners

Overseas Bankers Club
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, attended the annual dinner of the Overseas Bankers Club held last night at Guildhall. Mr Rodney Galpin, president, was in the chair and Dr Helmut Schlesinger, President of the Deutsche Bundesbank, was the principal speaker. Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, also spoke.

Cardiff Business Club
Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Mid Glamorgan, Mr Murray McLaggan, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr Alistair Golley, and the President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff last night. The Guest Speaker was the Right Hon J. Enoch Powell. Mr Alan Rosser, Chief Executive, IMC Consulting Group, presided.

Service dinner

The Chestnut Troop, RHA
Major Andrew Gregory, RHA, Battery Commander, and General Sir Martin Farndale, the Master Gunner, St James's Park, were the speakers at a dinner held on Saturday at Tidworth to mark the 200th anniversary of the formation of the Chestnut Troop, Royal Horse Artillery. Twenty two of the twenty four surviving battery commanders and 70 other past members attended.

Nature notes

Mandarin ducks, introduced from China and Japan, are now living as wild birds in Berkshire and Surrey, and are occasionally seen further north in winter. There is also a small colony around Perth. The drakes have a broad white eyestripe, bushy orange side-whiskers, and an orange sail standing up from their wings. They like to lurk under rhododendron bushes at the side of a lake, going ashore to feed on acorns and beechmast. Skylarks are singing again over the fields and staking out their territories, but still join up in small flocks to feed. Yellowhammers' heads are becoming a purer yellow and their flanks a brighter chestnut: they will start singing in a fortnight or so.

In the mild weather last week some hawthorn buds were sprouting, and leaves were beginning to unfold on wild rose bushes. On young hornbeams the spiky buds are turning green. Goose-grass is growing steadily on the roadsides: the young plants look like small green pagodas, and already have tiny hooks with which they will cling to close. There are purple flowers among the creeping leaves of lesser periwinkle, and clusters of small yellow flowers on the leafless branches of the cornelian cherry. DJM



THE SKYLARK



The Princess Royal receives a basket of doughnuts from Chris Boardman, the Olympic cyclist, in London yesterday at the launch of National Doughnut Week, which aims to raise £50,000 for Save the Children

Birthdays today

The Right Rev Lord Blanch, 75; Mr Roger Brooke, chairman, Candover Investments, 62; Sir Gordon Bryce, former Chief Justice of the Bahamas, 80; the Earl of Clarendon, 60; Dr Macdonald Critchley, neurologist, 93; Mr Andrew Davis, conductor, 49; Mr Les Dawson, comedian, 60; the Rev Dr Victor de Waal, former Dean of Canterbury, 64; Sir Robert Douglas, founder Douglas Group of Companies, 94; Mr Abba Eban, Israeli politician, 78; Sir Norman Fowler, MP, 55; M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, former President of France, 67; Mr Hughie Green, broadcaster, 73; Mr H.V. Hughes, former principal, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, 67; Mr David Jason, actor, 53; Mr David Jones, chief executive, Next, 50; Sir Chips Keswick, chairman, Hambros Bank, 53; Dame Alix Meynell, former civil servant, 90; Lord Reigate, 88; Miss Elaine Stritch, actress, 66.

Luncheons

Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce
Mr Knud Sorensen, Chairman and Chief Executive of Den Danske Bank, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at the Hyatt Carlton Tower hotel.

Mr James G. Davis, chairman of the chamber, was the host and the Danish Ambassador attended.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Lodovici Ferrari, mathematician, Bologna, 1594; Nell Gwyn, actress and mistress of King Charles II, London, 1650; Sir Joseph Banks, naturalist, London, 1743; Hannah More, evangelist and educator, Fishponds, Bristol, 1745; Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord, statesman, Périgord, France, 1754; Daniel Maclise, painter, Cork, baptised this day, 1806; Henry Havelock Ellis, physician and writer, Croydon, south London, 1859; Fritz Kreisler, violinist, Vienna, 1875; James Joyce, novelist, Dublin, 1882; James Stephens, poet and novelist, Dublin, 1882; Jascha Heifetz, violinist, Vilna, 1901.

DEATHS: Francis Hayman, painter, London, 1776; Richard Henry Dana, poet, Boston, Massachusetts, 1879; Dmitri Mendeleyev, chemist, Leningrad, 1907; John L. Sullivan, bare knuckle fighter, Abington, Massachusetts, 1918; Sir Owen Seaman, editor of *Punch* 1906-32, London, 1936; the Rev James Owen Hannay (George Birmingham), novelist, London, 1950; Buddy Holly, singer and songwriter, died in an aircrash, near Mason City, Iowa, 1959; Bertrand Russell, 3rd Earl Russell, mathematician and philosopher, Plas Penrhyn, Merionethshire, 1970; George Whipple, pathologist, Nobel laureate 1934, New York, 1976.

The state funeral of Queen Victoria, 1901.

Major General Idi Amin declared himself the absolute ruler of Uganda, 1971.

The British Embassy in Dublin besieged and burnt down, 1972.

Latest wills

Mr Frank Ernest Neal, of Birdham, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,325,857 net. He died intestate.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Mr Richard Michael Attwater, of Broughton, Lancashire . £751,721

Judith Florence Bull, of Grundisburgh, Suffolk £563,963

Mr Horace Owen Harrison Coulson, of London W11 £1,408,609

Mr John Raymond Crook, of Hove, East Sussex £541,031

Mr Philip Arthur Kingsbury, of Wentnor, Salop £541,653

Miss Ursula Mary Lascelles, of Hunmanby, North Yorkshire £677,867

Mrs Patience Hargreaves Lee Steere, of Dorking, Surrey £675,556

Mr William Leggatt Robinson, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire £517,750

Mrs Doris Elinor Stafford, of London NW1 .... £1,965,705

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of Help the Aged, will visit the Refugee Support Centre Elderly Project, King George House, YMCA, Stockwell Road, SW9, at 10.45.

The Princess Royal will open the Horserace Betting Levy Board's quinquennial veterinary conference at the Royal Society at 9.05; and will attend the Mixed Dining Night at the Inner Temple at 6.15.

University news

Oxford
Magdalen
To an Official Fellowship as Tutor in Economics: Professor Michael Allingham.

Manchester
The following to receive honorary doctorates in law on May 12: Lord Ashley of Stoke, former Labour MP; Baroness Castle of Blackburn, former Labour minister; Sir Norman Foster, architect; Mr David Jefferies, Chairman of the National Grid Company.

An honorary doctorate in science goes to Emeritus Professor Sir Francis Smith, former Astronomer Royal.

Appointments

Judge Hicks, QC, has been assigned to the Official Referees Court.

Mr Justice Holland to be a Presiding Judge of the North Eastern Circuit.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
CAPTAIN: P A Fish - Seahawk in Cmd 11.5.93; I R Henderson - Heron in Cmd 24.8.93; R G Kerr - MOD London 1.3.93; T W Loughran - Ark Royal in Cmd 20.4.93; T J Norman-Walker - Staff of CINCNAVHOME 16.7.93; J C Rapp - Brilliant 13.7.93; C D Stanford - Coventry 18.8.93.

SURGEON CAPTAIN: A P Steele-Perkins - MOD London 17.9.93

COMMANDER: C J Clay - St Vincent 14.93; I M Crabtree - NATO 15.6.93; R S B Davies MOD London 11.6.93; A D Ewing - BDS Washington 10.8.93; P C Ingham - Dryad MTS 3.5.93; D J Issitt - MOD London 20.7.93; P H Jones - Sultan 2.7.93; N Overington - Edinburgh in Cmd 20.7.93; B A Raymond - MOD W Byfleet 4.6.93; M J Robbins - MOD London 18.5.93; M S Rogers - Staff of CINCNAVHOME HQ 7.5.93; E D J Sykes - Centurion 11.6.93; S M Turner - Defiance 7.5.93; J R Wills - Staff of FOSF 14.5.93

CHAPLAIN: R C Cutler - Rosyth 4.5.93; W E Weldon - Cochrane 23.4.93

The Army
BRIGADIER: M J Strudwick - To MOD 5.2.93

COLONELS: N H G Beard - To Staff Coll. 1.2.93; R P D Brook - To be Comdt CTC, 10.2.93; D H Hills - To HQ ARRC. 1.2.93; N G Quarrelle - To HQ ARRC. 1.2.93.

LIEUTENANT COLONELS: M A D Donnithorne-Tait Scots DG - To BDS Washington, 5.2.93; R A Dudin RE - to HQ UKLF, 1.2.93; J K Marsham LI - To MOD, 1.2.93; M S Norbury RE - To HQ UKLF, 1.2.93; G T Robey Green Howards - To HQ Multinat Div (BAE), 1.2.93; J R Wallace RCT - To be CO 3 Armd Div Tpt Regt, 5.2.93; DM H Wright REME - To MOD, 2.2.93; P W Clarke RE - To MOD, 1.2.93; H A R Hancock R Signals - To MOD, 1.2.93; J P Riley RWF - To Staff Coll. 1.2.93; N T S Williams REME - To Staff Coll. 1.2.93.

Retirements
Colonel: J Cater Late RA, 4.2.93; R A S White Late INT Corps, 7.2.93.

Mr Hugh Robinson

The Funeral Service of Mr Hugh Robinson *will take place on Thursday*, February 4, in Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, at *10.45am*.

Mr Roger Trimble

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Roger Trimble, FRCP, will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 1993, at 3.00pm at St Nicholas' Parish Church, Pier Head, Liverpool.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr I. Hatvany and Miss J. Clark
The engagement is announced between Ivan, son of Mr and Mrs Paul Hatvany, of Box, Wiltshire, and Juliet, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Clark, of Compton Bassett, Wiltshire.

Mr J.R.L. Savill and Miss V.P.D. Onslow
The engagement is announced between Jolyon Robert Lydall, only son of Mr John Savill and the late Mrs Betty Savill, of Odiham, Hampshire, and Victoria Penelope Diana, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Onslow, of Brockenhurst, Hampshire.

Mr S.J. Swaffield and Miss M.M. Huckle
The engagement is announced between Stephen, younger son of Sir James and Lady Swaffield, of Beckenham, Kent, and Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jay Huckle, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Marriage

Mr C.J.K. Arkell and Miss M. Savitskaya Wright
The marriage took place between Mr Christopher Arkell and Miss Marina Savitskaya Wright on Sunday, January 24, 1993, at the Chapel of All Saints of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, in Barons Court, London.

The service was conducted by Father Vadim Zakrevsky and the bride was given away by her godfather, Prince Dimitri Galitzine, and attended by Mrs Irina Ratushinskaya, the matron of honour, Princess Irina Galitzine and Princess Marina Galitzine. The crown-bearers were Mr Igor Gerashenko, Mr Alexander Ivanov, Mr Sergei Noskov, Mr Sergei Reviakin and Mr Eugene Sorokin.

The reception will be held at the War and Peace Ball.

Mr G. White and Miss S. Moon
The marriage took place on December 20, 1992, in Sydney, Australia, of Gerard White to Sunjoo Moon.

Church news

Clergy appointments

The Rev Paul Bourner, Assistant Curate, Ipswich St Mary at Stoke w. St Peter Stoke Park: to be Rector, Ufford, Bredfield and Hasketon (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Christopher Brain, Director (non-stipendiary), Nine o'Clock Service Trust, St Thomas, Crookes (Sheffield): to be stipendiary.

The Rev Richard Crowson, Chief Race Equality Officer, London Borough of Islington: to be Assistant Secretary (half-time), (Race and Community Relations), Board for Social Responsibility, Church House, Westminster.

The Rev Andrew Dangerfield, Assistant Curate, St Marychurch, (Exeter): to be Assistant Curate, St Alphage, Burnt Oak, in charge of St Augustine, Grahame Park (London).

The Rev Michael Edge, Rector, the Ewyas Harold Team Ministry (Hereford): to be Vicar, St Andrew, Enfield (London).

The Rev Jonathan Falkner, Priest-in-charge, Flixton, Homersfield, S. Elmham St. Margaret, S. Elmham St. Peter and S. Elmham St. Cross, and also Rumburgh w.S. Elmham All Saints, S. Elmham St. James and S. Elmham St. Michael w. The Ilketshalls: to be Rector/Vicar, benefice of S. Elmham and Ilketshall, comprising S. Elmham St Cross; S Elmham St James; S Elmham St Margaret; S Elmham St Michael; S Elmham St Peter; Rumburgh w.S. Elmham All Saints; Flixton; Homersfield; Ilketshall St John; Ilketshall St Lawrence and Ilketshall St Margaret (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Frederick George, Priest-in-charge, Ringsfield w. Redisham, Barsham w. Shipmeadow and Mettingham: to be Rector, new benefice of Wainford, comprising Ringsfield, Redisham, Barsham w. Shipmeadow, Mettingham and Ilketshall St. Andrew (St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Maurice Gray, retired, formerly Chaplain to Ellesmere College: to be non-stipendiary minister, Ellesmere St Mary (Lichfield).

The Rev Paul Hackwood, Assistant Curate, Little Horton (Bradford): to be Social Responsibility Adviser (St Albans).

The Rev Bruce Hartnell, Vicar, Sholing: to be *also* Rural Dean of Southampton (Winchester).

The Rev Ian Hollin, Administrator of the Boniface Centre, Crediton (Exeter): to be Team Vicar in the Maltby Team Ministry (Sheffield).

The Rev Lyn Jamieson, Team Deacon, Bensham Team Ministry: to be Parish Deacon, united benefice of Ryton w. Hedgefield (Durham).

The Rev Thomas Jamieson, Team Vicar, Bensham Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, united benefice of Ryton w Hedgefield (Durham).

The Rev Michael Jones, Priest-in-charge, St Hugh, Holts: to be Vicar, All Saints, Hamer (Manchester).

The Rev James McManus, Vicar, Wolverhampton St Matthew: to be Vicar, Lapley w. Wheaton Aston (Lichfield).

The Rev Philippe Petricher, permission to officiate, St Paul, Hamstead: permission to officiate, All Saints, Stechford (Birmingham).

PERSONAL COLUMN

TEL: 071 481 4000 FAX: 071 481 9313

Do not remember against us the guilt of past generations; rather let your compassion come swiftly to meet us, for we have been brought so low.
Psalm 79:8 (REB)

BIRTHS

ANGELIDES - On January 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Suzanne and Philip, a son, Alexander St John, a brother for Davinia and Laura.

BEAUMONT - On January 26th, in Greenwich, to Michelle (née Grainger) and Gabriel, a daughter, Elizabeth Rose Bonny, a sister to Katherine.

GAUNT - On January 29th at the Wellington Hospital, to Gaynor and David, a son, Saul Ralph Walter.

HARROP - On January 28th, to Louise (née Young) and Matthew, a son, Thomas Frederick.

HARVEY - On January 23rd, to Suzy (née Hutton) and David, a son (Patrick Michael Edward), a brother for Rose.

HATFIELD - On January 26th 1993, to Kim (née Rogerson) and Adam, a daughter, *Poppy Hope, a sister for Mia.*

HOSKYNS-ABRAHALL - On January 28th, in Burundi, to Nicole and Edwin, a daughter.

KOREWKA - On January 26th, to Deborah and Stefan, a daughter, Sophie May.

KOCK - On January 27th, to Kathryn (née Mansfield) and Egmont, a daughter, Chloe Francesca.

MALLET - On January 29th, at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Hamilton) and Stephen, a daughter, Elizabeth Clare, a sister for George and Miriam.

NEILL - On January 21st, in Hong Kong, to Hilary (née Bourne) and Ruary, a son, Tom Callum Ruary, a brother for Georgina.

PIGACHE - On January 31st, to Elizabeth and Marc, a son, Alexander Paul.

POYNTON - On January 25th to Rosemary (née Barnes) and Christopher, a daughter, Emily Elizabeth, a sister for Edward and Matthew.

RABEN - On January 27th, to Sarah-Jane and Matthew, a daughter, Sophie Eleanor Rose, a sister for Freddie.

SMITH - On January 29th, to Charlotte (née Kerr-Smiley) and Christopher, a son, George Hector Courtney.

WALTON - On January 30th, to Frances (née McGuire) and Craig, a beautiful daughter, Harriet Eleanor.

WINDSOR CLIVE - On 30th January, to Camilla and David, a son, Alexander.

DEATHS

ARNOLD - On 31st January 1993, C. Graham, peacefully in the presence of his family at The Royal Star and Garter Home. Dearly loved husband of Bertha, much loved father of Peter and Margaret and wonderful grandfather. Funeral Service at St Mark's Church, Teddington, at 2 pm on Monday 8th February followed by cremation. Donations if desired to Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, in whose devoted care he spent his last years.

BAKER - On 30th January, peacefully at Beechside Rest Home, Liverpool, Nona Margaret aged 87, formerly of Malaya and East Africa, last surviving child of the late Canon and Mrs Baker of Dunstable, dear sister of the late Rt. Rev. W.S. Baker, a much loved sister, aunt and friend. Funeral Service at All Hallows Church, Allerton, Liverpool, on Thursday 4th February at 2.45 pm. *Family* flowers only but donations if desired to U.S.P.G., 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1.

BRIDGE - Suddenly on 28th January 1993, George Stanley Bridge of Cobham, Surrey. Much loved and missed husband of Jean and father of John and Robert. Funeral Service at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Tuesday 9th February at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The British Heart Foundation, c/o James & Thomas Ltd., Mill Road, Cobham, Surrey.

BURR - On February 1st 1993, still fighting after a 4 year struggle against cancer at The Countess of Brecknock Hospice, Andover, Carol Patricia, wonderful wife to Lawrence and devoted mother to James, Matthew and Alastair. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Friday February 5th 1993 at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to The Countess of Brecknock Hospice c/o Halcrow & Sons Funeral Directors, 6A Bridge Street, Andover, Hants. tel: (0264) 335255.

CLEMENTS - (Mrs) Margaret Clements. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, died peacefully in her sleep on January 30th 1993, at Nynehead Court, Wellington, aged 90. Service at All Saints, Nynehead, on Thursday February 4th at 2.45 pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only please but donations to her memory may be sent c/o Thomas Bros., High Street, Wellington, Somerset for Save the Children Fund.

CURLING - David, tragically on January 27th. Deeply loved husband of Marigold and father of Richard, Rosanna and Davina. Will be greatly missed by his family and many friends. Private cremation. Thanksgiving service at St Mary's, Amersham on 31st March at 3 pm.

DALE - On January 31st 1993, Antony, peacefully in a Hove nursing home after a long illness courageously borne. Beloved husband of Yvonne for 51 years and father of Madeleine. Funeral at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton, on Thursday February 4th at 3 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Parkinson's Disease Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H ORA.

DAVIES - Margaret Catherine, peacefully on 29th January 1993, aged 88, at Chateau des Tielles, Torteval, Guernsey, beloved wife of the late Milwyn and dearly loved mother of Richard and Tudor. Private cremation followed by a Service of Thanksgiving in Torteval Parish Church on Thursday 4th February at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to British Red Cross Society (Guernsey Branch), Red Cross House, Rohais, St Peter Port.

DAVIES - On January 21st, peacefully after a long fight against Alzheimers, Stanley, of Ashford, Kent, formerly of Unilever. Loved husband of Hazel and father of Fiona and Stephanie. Funeral has taken place.

FOX - Dilworth Quentin (Ken). Passed away peacefully on Sunday 31st January. Much loved father of Rosalind and Anthony. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Friday 5th February at 11.15 am. Flowers to J & W Shering, 15 Provost Street, Fordingbridge, Hants., SP6 1AY. tel: (0425) 653019.

FURZE - Norman John, on Saturday January 30th 1993. Funeral Service at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Friday February 5th at 9.40 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for Keynsham Hospital League of Friends c/o L.J. Guyan Funeral Directors, 12 Charlton Road, Keynsham, Bristol.

GRAVES - H.C.H. (Herbert). On January 29th, aged 90, in Eastbourne after a long illness bravely borne. For 46 years husband of the late Hessie and for 16 years of Lise, beloved stepfather of Leif, Dan and Martin, and step-grandfather of Leiv-Magne. Cremation private in Eastbourne. A Memorial Service will be held at St Mary-at-Hill, London EC3, on Monday 15th February at 12 noon.

GRENFELL HICKS - On January 28th peacefully in hospital, Mary Henriette Crease aged 91 years, beloved wife of the late Jimmy and devoted mother of David Hutton and beloved grandmother of Robert and Keith. Fondest memories from Enid, Jane and Sally. Funeral at Southampton Crematorium (East Chapel), Thursday February 4th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only please, with donations, if desired, to RNLI c/o F.W. House & Sons, F/D, Lymington, Hants.

GUTCH - William Louis Albert, on January 22nd. Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

HALL - On January 31st 1993, Major General Edward Michael Hall CB MBE DL of Treworgey, Liskeard, peacefully in hospital. Much loved husband of Diana and devoted father to Tim, Jeremy and Robin. Service at St Cleer Parish Church on Friday February 5th at 12.15 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Passmore Edwards Hospital, Liskeard. Thanksgiving Service, date to be announced.

LINFOOT - On Sunday January 31st 1993, peacefully in Westminster Hospital, Daphne, aged 84, widow of G.E. Linfoot, musician of Sheffield and Nottingham. Much loved stepmother of Margaret MacDougall and step-grandmother of Felicity, Anthea, Caroline, Margaret, Cordelia and Sebastian. Thanksgiving Monday February 8th at 2.30 pm at Westminster Hospital Chapel, 7th Floor, Dean Ryle Street, Horseferry Road, London SW1, followed by refreshments at 19 Warwick Square, SW1 (MacDougall). No flowers please, donations to Westminster Hospital.

LUGG - John William (Jack) aged 74. Formerly Senior Music Copyist of the BBC, on January 29th, peacefully at Moore Cottage Hospital, Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos. Beloved husband of Joan, much loved father of Timothy, Stephen, Peter, Claudia and Sara and loving grandfather. Memorial Service St Lawrence's Church, B.O.T.W., Glos, on Thursday 4th February at 2.30 pm. Donations to Moore Cottage Hospital.

MASON - Dorothy Margaret, on 31st January 1993 peacefully in the Cumberland Infirmary. Widow of John, beloved mother of Rosalind, Frances and Sarah and dearly loved grandmother. Funeral at St John's Church, Workington, on Friday 5th February at 10.45 am. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent for St John's Church to Rev. J.M. Cook, 59 Thorncroft Gardens, Workington, Cumbria, or R.S.P.B. (The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire).

MASON - On January 29th 1993 peacefully at home, Eileen Lilian, aged 76 years of Pulborough, Sussex. Widow of Alan, a loving mother and grandmother, who will be sorely missed by John, Philip and the family. Private family cremation. Memorial Service for family and friends, Friday February 5th, 12 noon at Stopham Church, Pulborough. Flowers may be sent to H.D. Tribe Ltd tel: (0903) 234516.

MAY - On 30th January 1993, very peacefully at her home, Myrtle, aged 90, widow of Lt. Colonel C.W. May, 12th Frontier Force Regiment (I.A.), mother of the late Anthony and daughter of the late Colonel Forteath, formerly of Newton, Morayshire. Private cremation. Date of Memorial Service to be announced later.

MILBURN - On January 29th, Margery Kathleen Mary, aged 75, dearly loved wife of Robert Milburn and mother of Angela and the late Antony. Service following private cremation at Worcester Cathedral on Friday February 5th at 5.30pm.

MULLINS - On 31st January, E.L.C. Mullins, OBE, formerly Secretary to the Editorial Board of the History of Parliament, in his 80th year. Cremation at Golders Green, 11.15 am Tuesday 9th February. No flowers by request.

PARKER - Peacefully at Gateside Nursing Home, Drymen, on 29th January 1993, Elsa Balfour Parker, *daughter of the late Dr. and* Mrs Parker of Kilmacolm. Service of Thanksgiving at Cairns Church, Milngavie, on Thursday 4th February at 1.15pm. Thereafter interment private. Family flowers only. Donations if desired may be sent to the Iona Cathedral Trust, 27 George Square, Edinburgh, EH8.

PEMBROKE DUTTSON - On January 29th 1993 at Buckland Hospital, Dover. Funeral at noon on Friday 5th February at Barham Crematorium, Canterbury. Enquiries to Cowell. (0304) 373113.

PRESTON - On January 26th, Eric, aged 83, Lay Reader in Diocese of Southwark and London. Funeral at Emmanuel Church, Ridgway, Wimbledon, on Thursday February 4th. If desired donations, in lieu of flowers, may be sent to Overseas Missionary Fellowship, The Vine, Sevenoaks, Kent.

SABIN - Derek Russell, B.Sc., C.Eng, MRAeS, M.I.E.E., beloved husband of Joyce, much loved father of Margaret and Janet, dear father-in-law of Chris, adored grandpa of Timothy and Joseph, passed away peacefully in Coventry on January 28th 1993. Enquiries to Pargetters Funeral Service. Telephone (0203) 225343.

SANDO - On January 29th 1993, peacefully at Chaseley, Eastbourne, John Harries, formerly Engineer to the West Shropshire Water Board. Funeral Service at Shrewsbury Cathedral on Friday February 5th at 12.15 pm.

SENIOR - On January 29th 1993, peacefully in hospital, Christopher, much loved husband of Mayreen Senior of Rugby, father of Helen and Martin, grandfather of Fenton and Rowan. Funeral Service at The Mid-Warwickshire Crematorium, Oakley Wood, Warwick, on Friday February 5th at 1 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o Walton and Taylor, 16 Railway Terrace, Rugby CV21 3EW. tel: (0788) 543008.

SMITH - On January 29th, peacefully at home in Hoarwithy, Herefordshire, James Stuart Smith, T.D. Beloved husband of Isabel. Funeral Service at King's Caple Church, Herefordshire on Friday February 5th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please, donations to the Injured Jockey's Fund.

SMITH - On January 24th in South Africa, peacefully after a brief illness, Eric, of the Vale of Health, Hampstead (late physician of Whipps Cross Hospital, Leytonstone). No funeral in accordance with his wishes.

SPERO - On January 29th, Judith, peacefully in Edenhall Hospice, London, aged 58. Funeral Service at St Matthew's Parish Church, Kingsdown Road, Surbiton, Surrey, on Thursday February 4th at 2 pm. Cremation at Kingston Crematorium 3 pm. Flowers to Leverton and Son Ltd., 212 Eversholt Street, NW1 1BD, by 11 am or if desired, donations to Edenhall Hospice c/o Leverton and Son, Funeral Directors.

STILLWELL - John. Suddenly at his home in Brentwood, on January 30th 1993. A beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service to take place on Friday February 5th at St Thomas' Church, Brentwood, at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Save the Children Fund, tel: (071) 703-5400. All enquiries to Bennetts (Brentwood) Ltd., tel: (0277) 210104.

TASKER - On 30th January, peacefully at his home in Heacham, Norfolk. Dr. John Lindley, husband of Grizell, father of Mark, Guy, Joanna and Bill. Family cremation on 4th February. Memorial Service to be announced later. No flowers please but donations for West Norfolk Home Hospice Support Group c/o John Lincoln Funeral Director, 40 Greevegate, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

TAYLEUR - On January 31st, at Mignot Memorial Hospital, Margot (Marguerite Armenne Ada), much loved mother of John and William. Funeral at St Anne's Church, Alderney, 11.30 am 4th February.

TAYLOR - Peter, aged 66, formerly of Gifford & Partners, Consulting Engineers, died at Southampton General Hospital after a short illness. Funeral Service at Southampton Crematorium on 5th February 1993 at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to: ICU, Southampton General Hospital.

TOLLEMACHE - On January 29th, peacefully at home, Cecelia Vernon Mary, beloved wife of the late Sq. Ldr. Anthony Tollemache G.C. and mother of Alexander and Judith. Funeral Service at St John's Church, Waterbeach, Cambridge, on Friday February 5th at 1 pm. No flowers, but donations to The Macmillan Fund, 15/19 Britten Street, London SW3 3TZ, would be appreciated.

TOMSON - On 31st January 1993, Roger Morris, of Adlington, Cheshire, aged 69 years. Beloved husband of Marilyn. Service at Prestbury Parish Church on Thursday 4th February at 10.45 am prior to private cremation. No flowers please, donations if desired to St Ann's Hospice, 90 Deansgate, Manchester. Enquiries to Ben Lloyd (F/D) Ltd. (061) 486-3135 and Poynton 872717.

TURNER LORD - Katherine Bice (Pete), peacefully at home in her 96th year. Funeral at Holy Cross Church, Bignor, West Sussex at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 3rd February. Family flowers only. Donations to Macmillan Service Appeal Office, Midhurst. GU29 0BL.

WILLIAMS - On January 30th 1993, peacefully at The West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds, Lewis Owen of Tostock. Darling husband of Rita, dear father of David and Simon, much loved by his daughters-in-law Tibby and Kathy and his four grandchildren. Service at St Andrew's Church, Tostock, on Friday 5th February at 10am followed by interment in the churchyard. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for The Friends of The West Suffolk Hospital may be sent c/o L. Fulcher, 80 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LILLEY - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of James Lilley will be held at 12 noon on Tuesday 16th February at St George's, Hanover Square, London.

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OBITUARIES

MAJOR-GENERAL ABDY RICKETTS

Major-General Abdy Henry Gough Ricketts, CBE, DSO, GOC Cyprus District, 1955-56, died after a long illness on 16 January, aged 87. He was born on December 8, 1905.

ABDY Ricketts was a Durham Light Infantryman (DLI), who commanded three different brigades in battle in two separate wars, and ended his career fighting the campaign against Colonel Grivas's EOKA terrorists as General Officer Commanding Cyprus District at the time of the Suez crisis of 1956.

Ricketts epitomised the last generation of British military officers, who had been grounded in the imperial ethic. His forebears had served the East India Company. He was himself born in Delhi, the son of Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. Ricketts, DSO, MVO, of the Bengal Lancers and his mother came from a DLI family. Educated at Winchester and Sandhurst before being commissioned into the DLI in 1925, he was essentially a sound infantryman with an inbred ability to lead and inspire soldiers from the Commonwealth and Empire.

His early service was with the 2nd Battalion DLI in the Shanghai Defence Force in 1927 and on the northwest frontier of India around Razmak in the early 1930s. He was at the staff college, Camberley, when war broke out in 1939, and after staff appointments in Gibraltar and West Africa, he went out to Burma as second-in-command of the 3rd West African (Chindit) Brigade, consisting of three Nigerian battalions, which took part in Orde Wingate's second and largest deep penetration operation behind the Japanese lines in 1944.

Soon after the operation began at the end of April, it was clear that his brigade commander was suffering from battle fatigue, and Ricketts was ordered to take command. The brigade had been flown into the "Aberdeen" airhead, and, by the time he took over, had been holding a major road and rail block, code-named "White City", established by Brigadier Mike Calvert's brigade on the main Japanese supply route.

Ricketts held "White-City" until May 10 when he was ordered to evacuate the block. He succeeded in getting his guns, heavy equipment and stores away by air, and then marched his brigade under the vilest weather conditions into upper Burma. A man of great physical stamina and always impatient to get to grips with his opponents, he led his Nigerians for three months in constant skirmishing with the Japanese until they were eventually lifted out by air in the middle of August.

No sooner had his brigade reached India than Ricketts was transferred to his second operational brigade command: the 4th West African Brigade. This took part in Lieutenant-General Philip Christison's XV Corps advance down the Arakan coast to seize the Akyab airfields and threaten Rangoon. Ricketts's brigade forced its way successfully down the difficult inland valleys, helping to turn main Japanese defences on the coast. He was wounded and later appointed OBE as well as being awarded the DSO for his services in Burma.

After the war he commanded the 5th (TA) Parachute Brigade in England and was back in the Far East on the staff of GHQ in Singapore when the Korean War started. His third brigade command in war came when he took over the command of the 29th British Infantry Brigade in the Commonwealth Division in Korea during the tedious defensive phase of the third year of the war. He is remembered for his constant visits to his forward units, which he always managed to carry out without attracting Chinese fire onto their positions. Nevertheless, he was wounded again, this time by fragments of an allied mine, stepped on by a company commander walking besides him. He was advanced to CBE when he left Korea in 1953 and the US made him an Officer of the Legion of Merit.



He was Assistant Commandant of the School of Land Air Warfare at Old Sarum before going out to Cyprus as District Commander in 1955. Responsible for internal security, he survived an attempt by EOKA to assassinate him with a bomb. His main contributions to the anti-EOKA campaign was the establishment of a sound administrative system in support of anti-terrorist operations. But he also had to make the preparations for mounting the Suez operation from the island. The latter was so delayed, however, that he had left, on retirement, a month before it was launched.

He retired to Somerset in 1956 and devoted his time to service charities and field sports. He became Colonel of the Durham Light Infantry in 1965, and Deputy Colonel of The Light Infantry after the amalgamation of the light infantry regiments in 1968. He was also a Deputy Lieutenant for Somerset.

He married Joan Warre Close in 1932. She and their son and daughter survive him.

HIS HONOUR THOMAS KELLOCK

His Honour Thomas Kellock, QC, circuit judge, 1976-91, and Liberal politician, died on January 12 aged 69. He was born on July 4, 1923.



THOMAS Oslaf Kellock was probably one of the best known legal practitioners in the Commonwealth. He was a forward looking man and seldom mentioned his days at Rugby, Clare College, Cambridge, or his wartime service in the Royal Navy. On the other hand, when he had been abroad, he would speak enthusiastically about who he had met there. He was fascinated by people regardless of race, colour, or creed.

Kellock was called to the Bar in 1949 and joined the chambers of Dingle Foot which specialised in appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. This was a time of great constitutional change in the Commonwealth. India had achieved independence and other smaller countries, especially in Africa, wished to follow suit. The Gold Coast, which became Ghana in 1957, was the first.

Dingle Foot, who was out of Parliament at the time, found himself briefed by many prominent African politicians and organisations. Very often, he had Tom Kellock as his junior. Though both were at the time Liberals, their sympathy with their clients never clouded their professional judgment.

When he was not abroad, Kellock continued to appear before the Privy Council. His practice grew and he was able to take silk in 1965. His speciality was, however, declining as more Commonwealth countries obtained independence and severed their links with London. It was therefore no surprise when he became the director of the legal division of the Commonwealth Secretariat in 1969. He was admirably suited to the work of planning and attending legal conferences in various parts of the Commonwealth. He was also constitutional adviser to the Sultan of Brunei, 1975-76.

In 1967 he married Jane Symonds, the secretary of the Africa Bureau. She shared his enthusiasm and sense of humour, and their generous hospitality brought together a great variety of people.

It was a surprise to many people not that he became a Circuit Judge in 1976, but that he agreed to sit at Nottingham. This was a new challenge for him but he soon got used to travelling around the circuit despite the obvious differences between such places as Grimsby, Scunthorpe and Derby, and those further afield like Accra, Jammu and Sarawak. He maintained his links with London by sitting at the Old Bailey and became a Bencher of the Inner Temple where he had a seat.

He was a popular and successful judge dedicated to seeing that every one in his court was fairly and courteously treated. He interested himself in Nottingham University and became a governor of the city's polytechnic.

Though not unsatisfied with his judicial work, he looked forward to being able to do other things. He had stood four times for Parliament: at Torquay in 1959; in South Kensington in 1966 and March 1968; and at Harwich in 1974. But though he fared better than most Liberal candidates, he was never elected.

When he retired in 1991 he was soon politically active again. He interested himself in the Liberal International and last year became the president of the British branch. He began to turn towards Europe while not reducing his interest in the Commonwealth.

Last December, he suffered from a heart condition. He seemed to recover well, and his sudden death in St Bartholomew's Hospital was a great shock to his many friends in many countries, and especially his former pupils with whom he strove to keep in contact.

He is survived by his wife.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA OF YUGOSLAVIA



Alexandra in June 1942, shortly before the official announcement of her engagement to King Peter of Yugoslavia

Queen Alexandra, widow of the last King of Yugoslavia, died in London on January 30 aged 72. She was born, a princess of Greece and Denmark, in Athens on March 25, 1921.

ALEXANDRA, a great great granddaughter of Queen Victoria and a cousin of the Duke of Edinburgh, was fated to be an exiled royal. Her father, Alexander, who died before she was born, was briefly King of Greece, four years before the monarchy in Athens was overthrown in 1924. And Alexandra was, herself, Queen of Yugoslavia for only 20 months between her marriage to King Peter II in March 1944 and November 1945 when the monarchy was abolished by a constituent assembly dominated by Marshal Tito's communists. Her life continued to be marked by tragedy. Twice, in 1953 and 1963, she attempted to commit suicide following marital problems with ex-King Peter.

The recurring saga of exile first affected Alexandra's family during the first world war. Her grandmother was a sister of Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany and, because of this, the Western Allies, feared that the sympathies of her husband, King Constantine, would lie with Germany rather than Britain and France. The Allies demanded his abdication and that of his son, the crown prince. As a result, Constantine's younger son, Alexander, became King of Greece, reigning from 1917 to 1920. At the time he was only engaged to Aspasia, the daughter of a noble Greek family.

To avoid complicating the royal line of succession, the couple gave their promise that they would not marry until after the war. Following the armistice, they married in November 1919. Then, in the summer of 1920, the king was walking in the gardens of the royal palace at Tatoi when his dog was attacked by a pet monkey belonging to the vineyard keeper. He tried to separate the two animals and was bitten on the leg by the monkey. A month later, after a series of high fevers and 11 operations, he was dead. He and Aspasia had been married only ten months and Aspasia was five months pregnant.

With both her own and her husband's families in exile, Queen Aspasia returned to Athens alone for the birth of her daughter Alexandra, who was granted the rank of royal princess. Had she been born a boy her name was to have been Philip. As it was, her great-aunt Alice and great-uncle Andrea, Prince and Princess Andrew of Greece, gave the name to their son Philip who, at Westminster Abbey in 1947, married Princess Elizabeth. In a book which she wrote about her cousin in 1959, Alexandra recalled that, as babies, they had shared prams and, in their teens, the possibility of their marriage had been discussed.

Alexandra spent her early years in exile with her mother in Italy, but moved to England when she was seven to live near Ascot and to attend a local boarding school. The Greek royal house was not rich and, with the fall of the monarchy, had lost all its possessions in the republic. Alexandra's mother had only a modest pension, paid to her in Swiss francs, and a small capital sum left to her by her husband.

Through her relationship to Queen Victoria, Alexandra was related to most of the royal families of Europe and, as a child, two of her favourite cousins were Prince Philip and Michael of Romania. She was unhappy and insecure at boarding school and at 13 was taken by her mother to Switzerland and then, in 1935, to Paris, where the two shared a rented apartment on the fifth floor of the Hotel de Crillon while Alexandra attended a Paris finishing school.

When Alexandra's romance with King Peter II of Yugoslavia developed, it was not universally popular among the king's supporters. Some of his advisers deemed his wish to marry inopportune, provoking a split among the disparate political groupings who had hoped that, once Yugoslavia was liberated from German occupation, the king could be a symbol of survival for a unified state. The couple married in London and 19 months later Peter lost the throne. They lived afterwards mostly in France in relatively impoverished circumstances. Peter worked but money was always tight. On one occasion a Paris dress house seized Alexandra's furs saying she owed them £5,000. Financial difficulties appeared to be at least partially responsible for the problems they encountered in their marriage. Rumours that the couple would separate were denied but in 1953, Alexandra was found with her left wrist cut after being told that her husband had decided to proceed with a divorce. Ten years later she made a second and more serious suicide attempt in Venice, lapsing into a coma after taking a drug overdose. Her husband died in Colorado in 1970. Alexandra is survived by their son, Alexander, the crown prince.

GILLIAN PEARKES

Gillian Pearkes, viticulturalist, died of a heart attack on January 20 aged 56. She was born on October 24, 1936.

GILLIAN Pearkes was a leading figure in the resurgence of viticulture in Britain, and an international authority on the cultivation of outdoor grapes. Her contribution to the success of the country's burgeoning wine industry has been considerable.

She grew her first outdoor grapes at the age of 17, and established her first vineyard at Tillworth House in East Devon in 1965. She studied the theory and practice of vinegrowing intensively, drawing from the work of such pioneers of the viticultural renaissance as Edward Hyams and Barrington Brock. She was inspired and encouraged in her work by Major-General Sir Guy Salisbury-Jones, who started the first commercial vineyard in Britain in modern times at Hambledon.

Seeking to determine the vine varieties best suited to our complex climatic conditions, she travelled widely (in 1976 she was awarded a Nuffield scholarship for the purpose of her researches in Europe) and established at her Yearlstone vineyard, near Tiverton, Devon, what must be the largest collection of experimental vine varieties in Britain. This collection, now registered as the National Collection of Vines, with continuing additions from experimental stations and growers, has become a centre for visits by vinegrowers from all over the world.

Pearkes set out her findings in written reports. Her book *Vinegrowing in Britain* has become a standard work on cool climate viticulture — with a refreshing absence of technical jargon. She did much to establish the merits of the Madeleine Angevine and German Siegerrebe grapes for white wine, and introduced from Alsace, after exhaustive trials, the Triomphe d'Alsace and Leon Millot for red. The Royal Agricultural Society acknowledged the great value of her work with a fellowship.

She was generous with the outcome of her research and experience, imparting advice with clarity and patience. Her telephone rang almost continuously during the few hours she spent away from her vines.



She did much of her written work while the world slept and was up and tending her small flock of sheep by dawn. Yet she still found time, with the support of her mother and brother, to bring vinegrowers together at happy social gatherings — with a marked viticultural content.

SIR James Jeans did not hold the office of Astronomer Royal, as was incorrectly stated in the obituary of his widow, Susi Jeans (January 23).

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AN EXPERIMENT IN HYPNOTISM.

The latest addition to the "bill" of the Royal Aquarium is of a somewhat remarkable character. Although its purpose is to establish a record, it is not in the same category as the feats of the gentlemen who fast for 40 days or play the piano for 36 consecutive hours; the characteristic of the performance — if such it can be called — being the prolonged maintenance of a state of complete torpor instead of the display of untiring energy. Mr Charles Morritt, the well-known conjuror and entertainer, has undertaken to induce an hyponotic sleep which shall last for eight days, and yesterday this undertaking was entered upon at the Royal Aquarium before a number of the representatives of the Press. The experiment was announced for 6 o'clock, but at the last minute the "subject" refused to submit to the ordeal, and some delay occurred before a substitute could be found. The gap was finally filled by Henry Nolan, a plasterer by trade, 32 years of age, and a native of Limerick. Nolan, having been placed in an easy recumbent position within a glass case without a lid, was examined by Dr Forbes Winslow, who pronounced his pulse to be regular at 78, and the pupils of his eyes to be greatly dilated. Mr Morritt then described the nature of the experiment, and added that if it succeeded he intended to repeat it under more severe conditions. Under Mr Morritt's treatment the subject had passed into an apparently profound sleep in less than two minutes, when he was again examined by Dr Forbes Winslow. His pulse was reported to have risen to 96, and his eyes showed no sensitiveness to light when they were held open. The puncture of a pin also produced no effect, and Dr Winslow pronounced Nolan to be absolutely unconscious, stating that he exhibited symptoms similar to those of narcotic poisoning. He added that there was no recorded case of a person actually sinking in hypnotic trance, and that Nolan was in good health and in no danger in that respect. Mr Morritt said that Nolan had been under his influence before, but only in small experiments. The sleeper is to receive liquid nourishment, and is to be watched day and night by a number of persons selected for the purpose by the management. A medical man has also been retained to give continuous attention to the case. While the trance continues Nolan can be seen by visitors to the Aquarium at any hour of the day.

ON THIS DAY

February 2 1895

Although Nolan is not written of again, it is fair to assume that this public experiment was successful, for ten days later Mr Morritt announced that a second experiment would be carried out with a man and a woman.

NEWS

Pound slumps to all-time low

■ The pound slumped to an all-time low and share prices soared yesterday as financial markets placed their bets on further aggressive cuts in British interest rates, disregarding strong and co-ordinated statements to the contrary from Downing Street, the Treasury and the Bank of England.

The markets have been convinced since the surprise one-point cut in base rates last Tuesday that the government has decided to go all out for growth ..... Page 1

Major's libel writ 'unprecedented'

■ John Major was reacting to the article in *New Statesman and Society* linking the prime minister with Claire Latimer in an "unprecedented and wholly unnecessary" manner. Steve Platt, the magazine's editor, says in a letter to *The Times* today ..... Pages 1, 17

House prices rise

House prices rose by more than 1 per cent last month compared to December, the largest rise for over a year. The figures are perhaps the firmest confirmation yet of earlier anecdotal evidence from estate agents and builders that the housing market is on the mend. The exact figure will be revealed by the Nationwide later this week in its monthly house price index ..... Page 1

Queen informed

The Queen has been informed "as a matter of courtesy" that the government is considering privatising the Royal Mail. Michael Heseltine, the president of the board of trade, signalled yesterday that selling off the Post Office as a single entity would be a strong option for the government when plans for the privatisation of postal operations are considered by ministers.. Page 1

Diet defeats cancer

Women born during the Second World war are about 20% less likely to develop breast cancer than doctors expected, according to the results of a study released yesterday by the Cancer Research Campaign, probably because the low calorie, lower fat high fibre war diet rich in "anti-cancer" vitamins ..... Pages 4, 14

Historic conflict

The simmering row between traditionalists and progressives about the teaching of history is likely to be brought to the boil by new tests for seven-year-olds this spring. Up to 600,000 pupils may face questions such as what Guy Fawkes might have said when asked why he tried to blow up Parliament ..... Page 5

Police pledge

Paul Condon arrived at Scotland Yard yesterday to take up his new job as commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. At 45, he is one of the youngest commissioners the London force has ever had. He promises better detection, more men on the beat and a kinder courteous response to people in need ..... Page 7

Tanks clash

The sky above the Adriatic coast darkened again yesterday after a weekend lull as Serb and Croat forces fought pitched artillery and tank duels in the hills running up from the sea ... Page 11

Revolutionary zeal

The *baseej* are Iran's urban successors to the teenage "human wave" volunteers of the Iran-Iraq war. They are in the vanguard of the drive to ensure strict adherence to the values imposed by the late Ayatollah Khomeini during this week's 14th anniversary of the revolution .... Page 12

Ultimatum on aid

Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, has threatened to halt aid to Zaire and Togo. He blamed violence in the two countries on their leaders' refusal to accept democratic reforms. Sixty-five people were killed in Kinshasa, while 25,000 fled the Togolese capital ..... Page 13

Focusing on Europe's lawmakers

■ An era of glasnost dawned in the European Community yesterday when television cameras were allowed into the Council of Ministers for the first time in 35 years. The new openness was at the insistence of the Danish government, which hopes the spectacle will help calm Danish voters' fears over Maastricht by putting them to sleep ..... Page 11



Passive smoke: a Serbian soldier taking a break behind the lines in Krajina, scene of heavy fighting between Serbs and Croats

BUSINESS

Lloyd's losses mount: Gooda Walker, the Lloyd's of London agency now in liquidation, faces total losses of £925 million, almost double the level previously forecast ..... Page 21

Milk moves: Northern Foods has challenged the Milk Marketing Board's monopoly of milk distribution, proposing to buy milk direct from farmers ..... Page 23

Markets: The pound fell to its lowest-ever average level. It closedg down 3.43 cents at $1.4542 and down 1.93 pfennigs at DM2.3757, leaving the trade-weighted index at 77.4. Shares raced ahead as investors backed companies likely to benefit from sterling's weakness and the FT-SE 100 index ended up 44.4 at 2,851.6 ..... Page 24

SPORT

Cricket: Rain represented England's only chance of avoiding defeat in the first Test match against India in Calcutta. India needed 43 runs to win on the final day after England were all out for 286 in their second innings. West Indies completed their demolition of Australia in Perth, winning the fifth Test, and the series, on the third day ..... Pages 36, 40

Football: Malcolm Crosby has been dismissed as manager of Sunderland, nine months after he led them to the FA Cup Final. They were knocked out in the fourth round this season and stand 17th in the first division ..... Page 38

MODERN TIMES

Battlefield tour: Two Scotland Yard officers leave for the Falkland Islands today to investigate allegations of war crimes against members of the 3rd Battalion the Parachute Regiment ..... Page 14

Pop flops: Teenagers are bored with pop. The music industry, whose very lifeblood has been a succession of unhealthy teenage cravings, has found itself upstaged ..... Page 14

BODY AND MIND

Under pressure: An airline president, a peer and a pop star were recently found to be suffering from serious blood clots after making transatlantic flights ..... Page 14

LAW

Drugs case falters: The Legal Aid Board has announced it is withdrawing legal aid from 1,700 people claiming compensation for addiction to Valium, Librium and Mogadon. The decision threatens the continuance of the mass legal action over tranquillisers, the biggest personal injury case in Britain ..... Page 29

Sex, laws and videotape: The obscenity laws in this country are in an abysmal state. John Major has called for a review after the belated discovery that there is little the government can do about Red Hot Dutch, a satellite channel that transmits hard-core pornography to Britain ..... Page 31

ARTS

Miranda's magic island: The Scottish poet and playwright Liz Lochhead's adaptation of Shakespeare's *Tempest* for a young audience, telling the story through Miranda's eyes, is about to open at the Unicorn Theatre ..... Page 33

Watches' gold? The Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Art is acting as matchmaker for artists and galleries and has presented the Tate with a work by Christian Boltanski ..... Page 33

Stars in the East: Forty years after Joan Littlewood brought her mould-breaking Theatre Workshop to the East End, the Theatre Royal Stratford East remains faithful to her spirit ..... Page 35

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Anne Robinson, policy head of the Institute of Directors, says businesses need to be able to work within a sustainable economic framework Page 2



Martin Keown, the Manchester City defender, is to rejoin Arsenal for £2 million, ten times the amount they received for him in 1986 Page 40



Judit Polgar, 16, the youngest chess grandmaster in the world, will earn £82,200 if she beats Boris Spassky in Budapest this week Page 5



Rabbi Schneerson, 90, disappointed some members of Lubavitch when he failed to declare himself the Messiah on Sunday Page 12

TV LISTINGS

As many as 40,000 sane people may have been locked away in British mental institutions. In the *First Tuesday* documentary *Out of Sight, Out of Mind* (ITV, 10.40pm), we meet some of them ..... Page 39

OPINION

No points for truth

The prime minister has wrested control of economic policy from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. We know this to be so because 10 Downing Street "categorically denies" it ..... Page 17

One man in a boat

Zaire, like the states of communist Eastern Europe in the 1980s, is not a monolith: there are dynamic forces in the country that need to be fostered and given muscle if here, as in so many parts of Africa, nation states are to make a successful transition to democracy .... Page 17

Royal post

Mr Heseltine is right to explore the commercial future of the mail service; but the Post Office should not lose its royal stamp ..... Page 17

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN

Why should anyone worry if a judge isgay or straight, when all that matters isthat the bench is fair and dispassionate ..... Page 16

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

It was a happy weekend. The ERM has claimed its fifth victim in the shape of the Irish punt. I look forward with particular pleasure to the franc's demise ..... Page 16

LYNNE TRUSS

After years of cudgelling my brains for a suitable way of expressing my resentment at growing up in a house filled with tobacco smoke. I have finally hit upon the perfect solution. I shall sue them. Page 16

LETTERS

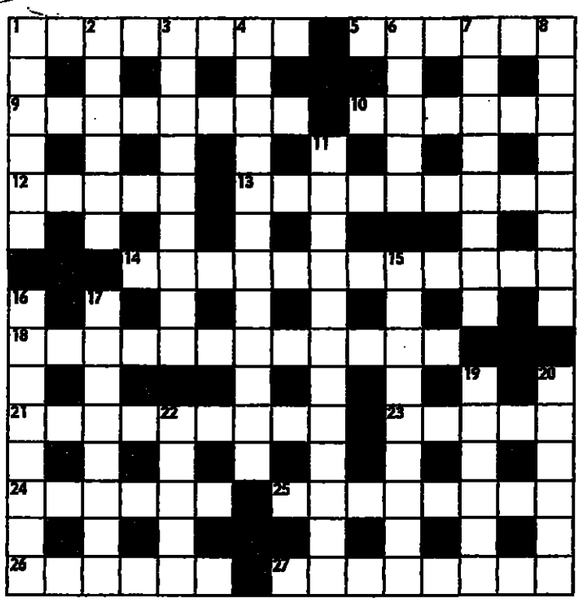
A wine merchant complains about unfair competition from "back-door" sales of alcohol imported from France on which only low duties have been paid ..... Page 17

THE PAPERS

The US should be prepared to enforce UN resolutions against Bosnian Serbs, militarily if necessary. The time has come to consider using more force to bring peace to Bosnia, even if it means the United States has to become militarily involved

USA Today

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,143



ACROSS

1 Elegiac notes not caught by late writer (4,4).
5 Put out for audience, not all at once (6).
9 Pontius Pilate, or his dad? (8).
10 One has business with models (6).
12 Special vocabulary lacking its principal element (5).
13 Play — not *The Third Man* (3-6).
14 It ornaments the church, disgraces the pub (7, 5).
18 Transfer from existing place (12).
21 Does it explain more about hi-fi equipment? (9).
23 Colourless counter-revolutionary (5).
24 Very fat — made two holes in colourful jacket (6).
25 Avoiding the border along the bottom of the wall (8).
26 Went without being massaged, I hear (6).
27 Ancient spirit disturbed by extremes of noise (8).

DOWN

1 Record spread of snarl-up (3-3).
2 Heathen is sensible to accept a Bible (6).
3 Around arrival of rain, petal was knocked about (9).
4 Not much work for judge, deprived of power by this? (5,7).
6 Why dragon may guard something hard to destroy (5).
7 Insist on buying Irishman a drink? (5,3).
8 No confidence in group of companies headed by girls (8).
11 Bismarck was originally really rather poor (6,6).
15 Charity has efficient factory (4,5).
16 Abandoned bra in bed, and left bloomers here? (5,3).
17 On which A1 types can speak? (3,5).
19 Little cover to be found in small island (6).
20 Student, last to practise, fit for concert (6).
22 Sally may be my daughter (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,142

H	E	A	D	L	A	N	D	S		S	L	E	E	P
E		S		O		E		I		T		S		R
R	E	T	S	I	N	A		G	R	A	P	P	L	E
B		I		T		R	H		R		I		S	
A	E	R	I	E		N	O	T	O	R	I	O	U	S
L			R		E		S		Y		N			
I	N	C	R	E	A	S	E			W	A	N	D	
S		O		O		S		D		A		G		A
T	I	N	T				M	I	S	S	P	E	N	T
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H		C		T		E		O		I		A		A
T	H	E	S	E		S	T	R	A	N	G	L	E	R

Concise Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

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London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Most places will be cloudy, although central and southeast England and East Anglia will have sunny intervals. Drizzle is likely in the West, while more persistent rain in the North West will spread to much of Scotland and Northern Ireland. Mainly dry weather will follow in the afternoon. It will be windy in the North and temperatures will be near normal. Outlook: sunny intervals, dry in the South, rain at times in the North.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	s	Madrid	12	54	s
Alicante	9	48	c	Majorca	14	57	c
Alex'dria	13	55	c	Malaga	13	55	f
Algiers	19	66	s	Malta	13	55	c
Amst'dm	0	32	s	Melb'rne	35	95	f
Athens	8	46	f	Miami*	25	77	f
Bahrain	19	66	c	Milan	6	43	s
Bangkok	28	82	s	Montreal*	-20	-4	sn
Barbados*	26	82	f	Moscow	-1	30	c
Barcelna	12	54	f	Munich	2	36	f
Beirut	7	45	r	Naples	12	54	s
Belgrade	-4	25	s	N Delhi	20	68	s
Berlin	-1	30	c	N York*	6	43	c
Bermuda*	19	66	f	Nice	15	59	s
Biarritz	12	54	s	Oslo	5	41	s
Borde'x	12	54	s	Paris	4	39	c
Brussels	-1	30	c	Peking	5	41	s
Budapst	-2	28	s	Perth	31	88	f
B Aires*	26	79	f	Prague	-10	14	s
Cairo	13	55	c	Reykjavik	4	39	r
Cape Tn	27	81	s	Rhodes	7	45	s
Chicago*	1	45	s	Rio de J	36	95	s
Ch'church	19	66	f	Riyadh	21	70	s
Cologne	2	36	s	Rome	10	50	s
C'phagn	-1	30	fg	Salzburg	-3	27	s
Corfu	10	50	s	S F'isco*	11	52	s
Dublin	7	45	c	Santiago*	30	86	s
Dubrovnik	12	54	s	S Paulo*	28	82	c
Faro	14	57	f	Seoul	2	35	s
Florence	13	55	s	Sing'por	30	86	f
Frankfurt	0	32	s	St'kholm	5	41	s
Funchal	14	57	f	Strasb'rg	1	34	c
Geneva	5	41	f	Sydney	31	88	s
Gibraltar	12	54	f	Tangier	7	45	f
Helsinki	3	37	s	Tel Aviv	8	46	r
Hong K	20	68	s	Tenerife	16	64	f
Innsbruck	2	36	s	Tokyo	8	46	s
Istanbul	2	36	r	Toronto*	2	36	c
Jeddah	25	77	s	Tunis	16	61	f
Jo'burg*	24	75	f	Valencia	14	57	r
L Palmas	18	64	c	Vanc'ver*	1	34	fg
La Tquet	1	34	c	Venice	8	46	s
Lisbon	12	54	s	Vienna	-7	19	s
Locarno	7	45	s	Warsaw	0	32	c
London	6	43	s	Wash'ton*	14	57	f
L Angels*	15	59	s	Wel'nton	16	61	f
Luxembg	-3	27	c	Zurich	3	37	c
Luxor	20	68	s				

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 8C (46F); min 6pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6pm, 65 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 6.6hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6pm, 1,034.9 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, Cornwall, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Penzance, Cornwall, 0.15in; highest sunshine: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway, 7.4hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 7C (45F); min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.5hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 4C (39F); min 6pm to 6am, —5C (23F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1.6hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.9	-	8	46	sunny
Anglesey	7.2	0.11	8	46	sunny
Belfast	7.2	-	7	45	sunny
Birmingham	-	-	7	45	shower
Bognor Regis	3.8	-	9	48	bright
Bournemouth	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Bristol	-	0.01	8	46	cloudy
Buxton	0.5	0.02	5	41	bright
Cardiff	1.5	0.04	9	48	cloudy
Clacton	0.9	-	8	46	cloudy
Cromer	-	0.04	7	45	dull
Douglas	-	0.05	6	43	sunny
Edinburgh	7.2	0.01	7	46	sunny
Eskdalemuir	7.4	0.12	6	43	sunny
Falmouth	2.1	-	12	54	bright
Folkestone	1.0	-	8	46	cloudy
Glasgow	6.8	-	7	45	sunny
Hastings	3.7	-	9	48	bright
Hunstanton	-	-	7	45	dull
Jersey	1.0	-	8	46	cloudy
Kinloss	6.4	0.02	7	45	sunny
Leeds	2.8	0.04	7	45	bright
Lerwick	0.9	0.02	7	45	shower
Lllshampton	4.7	-	9	48	bright
Liverpool	5.7	0.06	8	46	sunny
London	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Lowestoft	0.4	0.02	7	45	rain
Manchester	4.8	0.06	8	46	bright
Margate	X	-	8	46	bright
Minehead	-	-	8	46	dull
Morecambe	6.7	0.06	7	45	sunny
Newcastle	6.5	0.05	8	46	sunny
Newquay	11	-	11	52	cloudy
Nottingham	-	-	7	45	rain
Penzance	2.0	0.15	12	54	cloudy
Plymouth	0.5	-	10	50	cloudy
Poole	0.2	-	8	46	cloudy
Prestwick	7.1	0.06	8	46	sunny
Saunton Snd	0.8	-	11	52	cloudy
Scilly Isles	1.4	-	10	50	bright
Shanklin	1.0	-	8	46	cloudy
Southend	X	-	x	x	cloudy
Southsea	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Stornoway	4.9	0.02	7	45	sunny
Swanage	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Teignmouth	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Tenby	3.0	0.06	9	48	cloudy
Tiree	5.6	-	8	46	sunny
Torquay	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Weymouth	0.8	-	7	45	bright
Wick	6.0	-	6	43	sunny
Worthing	4.4	-	9	48	sunny

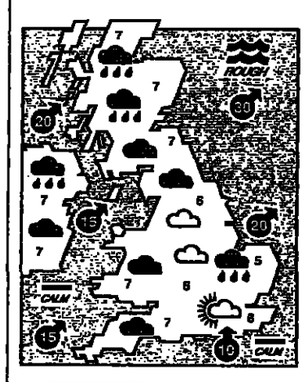
X denotes not available

TOURIST RATES

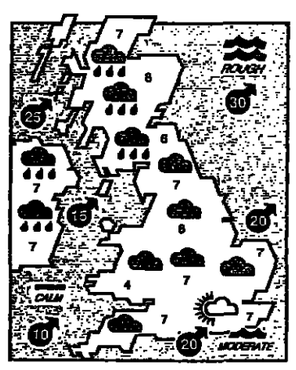
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.25	2.05
Austria Sch	17.80	16.30
Belgium Fr	52.10	47.70
Canada $	1.98	1.80
Denmark Kr	9.78	8.98
Finland Mkk	8.90	8.10
France Fr	8.54	7.84
Germany Dm	2.52	2.32
Greece Dr	340.00	315.00
Hong Kong $	11.91	10.91
Ireland Pt	1.035	0.955
Italy Lire	2305.00	2140.00
Japan Yen	199.00	180.00
Netherlands Gld	2.84	2.61
Norway Kr	10.70	9.90
Portugal Esc	228.50	208.50
South Africa Rd	5.40	4.70
Spain Pta	175.00	162.00
Sweden Kr	11.41	10.61
Switzerland Fr	2.33	2.15
Turkey Lira	13800.0	12800.0
USA $	1.545	1.42

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 4.52 pm to 7.38 am
Bristol 5.02 pm to 7.46 am
Edinburgh 4.48 pm to 8.04 am
Manchester 4.54 pm to 7.51 am
Penzance 5.18 pm to 7.53 am

Sun rises: 7.37 am
Sun sets: 4.52 pm
Moon rises 11.50 am
Moon sets 3.46 am
Full moon February 6

YESTERDAY

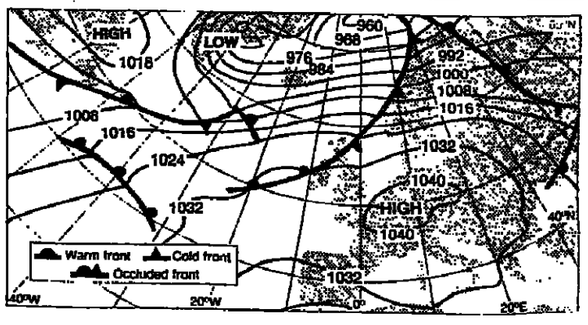
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	7	45	s	Guernsey	5	41	c
B'mngham	5	41	f	Inverness	6	43	s
Blackpool	7	45	f	Jersey	4	39	c
Bristol	6	43	c	London	6	43	s
Cardiff	7	45	s	M'nchster	7	45	c
Edinburgh	3	37	f	Newcastle	4	39	c
Glasgow	-1	30	c	R'nldsway	6	43	c

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.34	5.5	9.25	5.8	Liverpool	6.22	7.2	7.04	7.3
Aberdeen	8.57	3.3	9.27	3.4	Lowestoft	4.41	2.0	5.30	2.0
Avonmouth	1.27	9.7	2.26	9.8	Margate	6.55	3.8	7.49	3.9
Belfast	8.24	3.0	8.55	2.9	Milford Haven	12.56	5.1	1.45	5.2
Cardiff	1.12	9.2	2.11	9.2	Newquay			12.45	5.3
Devonport	12.18	4.3	12.53	4.3	Oban	12.12	2.9	2.34	3.0
Dover	8.58	5.3	9.48	5.1	Penzance			12.09	4.3
Falmouth			12.23	4.1	Portland	12.42	1.4	1.04	1.3
Glasgow	7.43	4.0	8.41	3.7	Portsmouth	8.20	4.1	7.05	3.8
Harwich	6.35	3.2	7.24	3.1	Shoreham	6.11	4.7	7.00	4.8
Holyhead	5.51	4.3	6.28	4.4	Southampton	6.15	3.7	7.04	3.7
Ilfracombe	12.35	6.7	1.27	6.8	Swansea	1.09	7.1	1.54	7.2
King's Lynn	1.08	4.7	2.01	4.7	Tees	11.25	4.2	11.56	4.3
Leith	10.12	4.3	10.40	4.4	W'ton-on-Nze	6.34	3.4	7.21	3.3

NOON TODAY



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هكذا من الأصل

صكذا من الاصل

BUSINESS 21-27
Hoover sparks cross-Channel jobs dust-up



ARTS 33-35
Joan Littlewood lives on at Stratford East



SPORT 36-40
England facing defeat in Calcutta

FOCUS ON SMALL BUSINESS
Page 27

THE TIMES

2

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 2 1993

Pound touches an all-time low but shares soar

'Wise Men' back rate cuts

BY JANET BUSH AND MICHAEL CLARK

THE government is likely to get support for its policy of cutting interest rates from its independent forecasting panel of Seven Wise Men, who deliver their individual assessments on the economy to the Treasury today.

There appears to be virtual unanimity that the economy remains too fragile for complacency and that the government should go on cutting rates if signs of recovery fail to appear. The panel formally meets Treasury officials for the first time next Tuesday, to agree on a report that will be sent to the Chancellor, including economic forecasts and policy recommendations.

The pound yesterday continued its precipitous fall since base rates were cut to 6 per cent last Tuesday, closing at DM2.3757. Shares, however, were buoyant, the FT-SE 100 index rising to within ten points of its all-time high on hopes of another base rate cut.

The wise men still believe that the risk of the recovery fading is greater than the inflationary implications of further devaluation. Gavyn Davies, chief economist of Goldman Sachs and a member of the panel, said last week's surprise cut in base rates was evidence that the government had decided on a more aggressive downward path for interest rates. Goldman Sachs has lowered its forecast for base rates by the end of the year from 5 to 4.5 per cent, but does not rule out even lower rates than that "if the economic recovery remains patchy and sluggish". Mr Davies said: "Easing monetary policy too much is less damaging than easing too little."

Professor Patrick Minford, of Liverpool University, agrees. He called for an early cut in interest rates to 3 per cent, arguing that debt levels in Britain are at a height unprecedented since the 1930s and need radical action.

At least five of the seven oppose raising taxes in March, because of the risk that would pose to confidence and recovery. Mr Davies argues that the government should not tighten fiscal policy this year, but pre-announce tax cuts for next year. Professor Minford wants tax cuts to help recovery. In contrast, Professor Tim Congdon wants the government to promote higher monetary growth, using lower interest rates as one tool, but argues for hefty tax increases in March.

Sterling touched a record low of DM2.3580 in overnight trading, a fall of almost five pfennigs from Friday night's close; it then stabilised to close at DM2.3757, still two pfennigs down. Sterling's exchange rate index against a basket of currencies ended at a record low of 77.4, breaching November's 77.7 trough.

G7 summit called ..... page 1
British reaction ..... page 2
ERM reports ..... page 10
Nicholas Ridley ..... page 16
Leading article ..... page 17
Stock market ..... page 24
Tempus ..... page 25

On the stock market, investors began pinning their hopes on another imminent cut in interest rates and ignored the latest setback for the pound. More than £7 billion was added to the value of Britain's publicly quoted companies as the FT-SE 100 Index came within ten points of its all-time high. After a pause for breath around midafternoon, the index advanced again to close just below its best of the day at 2,851.6, 44.4 points up.

Brokers described turnover levels as slightly disappointing, with less than 800 million shares changing hands. Institutional support was mainly focused on big exporters and dollar-sensitive issues.

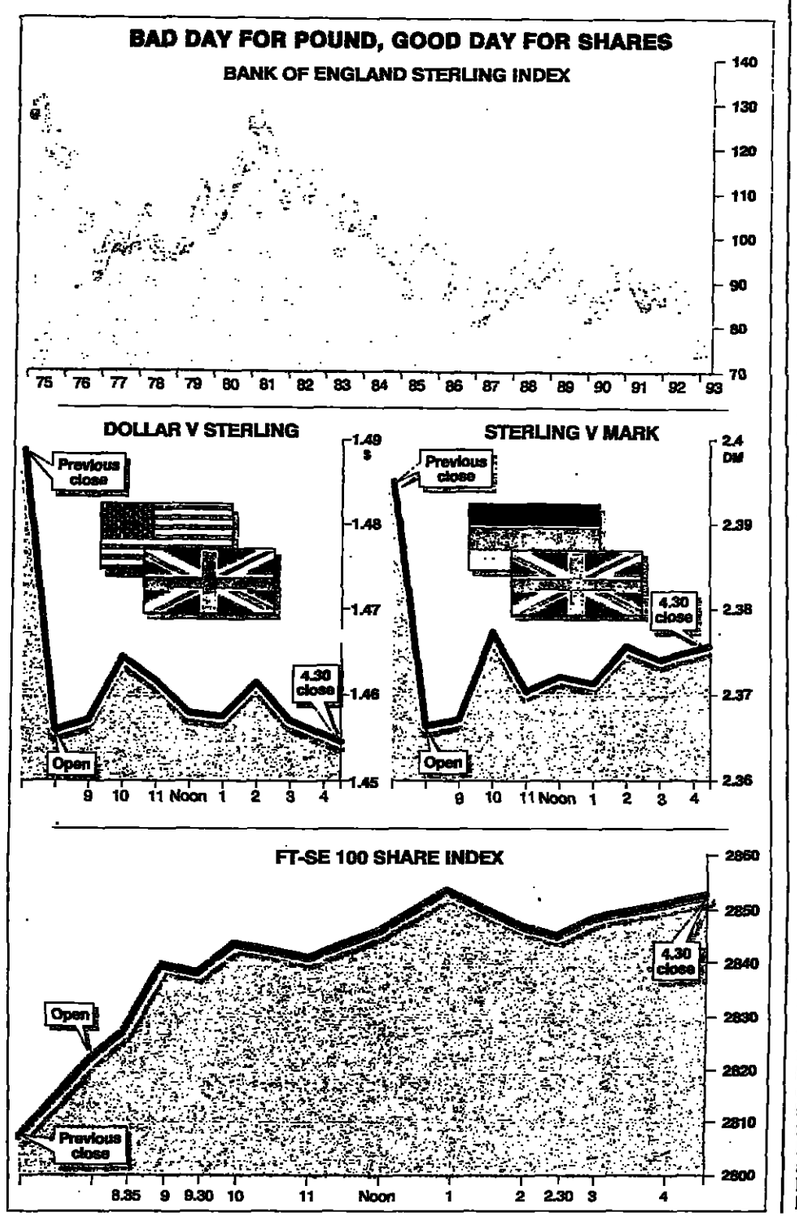
But dealers expect a further softening of interest rates to provide long-term benefits for both the equity and bond markets. Fund managers are being forced to withdraw money on deposit and invest it in both the equity and bond markets, to achieve better returns.

The gilts market scored impressive gains across the board as the prospect of an interest rate cut cheered investors. The yield curve steepened, with most institutional support focused on medium- and short-dated issues.

The Bank of England took advantage of bond market strength to issue four tranches of existing stock totalling £750 million. Prices at the shorter end rose by more than £½.

Sterling's continued weakness eroded some of the gains in competitiveness won by the Irish punt on the first trading day after Saturday's decision to devalue by 10 per cent within the exchange rate mechanism. However, the punt had a fairly comfortable day as speculative short positions were covered; it surged towards the top of the currency grid. There was immediate relief for Irish business and the banking system when the Irish government lowered overnight lending rates from the penal 100 per cent in force last week to 14 per cent, and commercial banks reversed Friday's rise in prime rates to 28 per cent from 16 per cent.

The rest of the ERM was nervous but did not see the speculative attack that many had expected, partly because of a fortuitously timed climb in the dollar. This limited gains by the mark that would have put more pressure on the system. The franc and the Danish crown were under pressure, but ended comfortably above their floors.



Gooda Walker losses deepen

BY SARAH BAGNALL

MORE than 4,000 Gooda Walker names are facing further cash calls after GW Run-Off, which manages the seven syndicates' run-off, doubled its estimate of total losses to £924 million, the biggest reported by a Lloyd's managing agency. The average loss per name is almost £250,000.

The estimate, which covers the 1988 year of account and all open years up to 1990 but excludes 1991, is sharply up from last June's estimate of £500 million, because of a £142 million deterioration last year in the 1989 and prior years of account and a preliminary estimate of a £190 million loss for 1990.

The Gooda Walker Action Group, acting for 2,600 GW names, is raising its total claim against 77 members and managing agents from £300 million to £375 million.

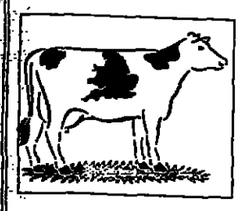
Ralph Sharp, chairman of GW Run-Off, said the estimated £924 million loss could rise further because of the continued processing of asbestos and pollution losses and the possible feed-through of claims from the Lockerbie disaster.

Mr Sharp warned the names, who have already faced cash calls of £600 million, of which £195 million is still outstanding, they could face a call in June for another £300 million. He said he hoped it would not be necessary to make any cash calls before then, but names on one of the syndicates, 296, should "be aware that an early cash call may be unavoidable if the position deteriorates further".

The £142 million deterioration is not wholly due to increased claims, however: £46 million is due to foreign exchange losses and a further £12 million is due to the interest charges levied by Lloyd's on overdrawn balances resulting from the delays by names in funding the losses.

BUSINESS TODAY

MILK SHAKE

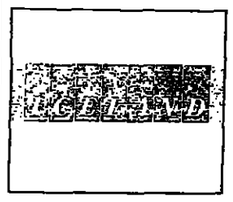


Northern Foods will buy milk direct from farmers, challenging the Milk Marketing Board's monopoly on milk distribution
Page 23

WARD TRIAL

The trial of Thomas Ward, who played a key role in Guinness's £2.5 billion bid for Distillers, resumed yesterday
Page 23

FOOD INTAKE



Iceland Frozen Foods is taking over most of the food retailing operations of Littlewoods and raising £27.5 million
Page 23

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4542 (-0.0343)
German mark .... 2.3757 (-0.0193)
Exchange index ..... 77.4 (-0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2851.6 (+44.4)
Dow Jones ... 3319.48 (+9.45)*
Nikkei Avg .17133.64 (+109.86)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month interbank 6⅛-6⅛%
US Federal Funds 3⅛%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.92-2.91%*
Long Bond 7.23%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£:$ 1.4535*	£:$ 1.4550
$:DM .1.6365*	£:DM 2.3760
$:SWfr.1.5170*	£:SWfr...2.2069
$:Fr ...5.5350*	£:Fr 8.0350
$:Yen .124.90*	£:Yen ...181.66
£:SDR ..1.0871	£:ECU ..1.2197

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 329.50 ..... PM 329.75
Close 329.70-330.20
New York:
Comex 330.05-330.55*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI .....139.2 December (2.6%)
* Denotes midday trading price

S&P to charge on current accounts



Lindsey: running costs

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

FREE banking comes under pressure today. Robert Fleming is to announce that it will charge current account customers with less than £500 in their accounts. The larger banks have current accounts under review and are known to want to start charging.

Robert Fleming, which markets its accounts as Save & Prosper, is expected to charge £5 a month to customers below its new free banking threshold but will pay them a higher interest rate.

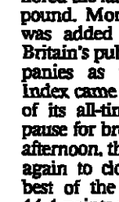
Ian Lindsey, director of banking at Robert Fleming/Save & Prosper, said: "The marginal cost of an average account is £40 to £45 and the full cost is £75 a year."

Free banking for customers in credit was first introduced among the Big Four by Midland in 1984. Midland, TSB and Barclays have no immediate plans to charge customers who keep small balances. National Westminster has been studying the charges structure for some time.

Lloyds Bank, which was the first to charge for its credit cards, said it did not believe it could introduce a charge until customer service had improved and had been recognised as doing so. In January last year, Halifax Building Society announced it was to levy charges for more than two counter withdrawals a month on savings accounts with less than £250 in them and levy a quarterly charge of £2.50 for accounts below £50. Nationwide Building Society last year restricted the entry to its FlexAccount to those paying in at least £500 a month.

Save & Prosper is believed to have been keen not to get the refugees from the two largest building societies and from the first large bank to introduce a charge.

A strategy that dare not speak its name



ANTHONY HARRIS

John Major is in a hole. He has changed his mind on a heroic scale; but he cannot say so. On the old nursery rule — watch what I do, not what I say — he appears to have a clear strategy. But he dare not describe it: that would mean not only blaming his own past policies, but those of Mrs Thatcher, too — more than his fractious party could stomach. Further, he might have to mention a predecessor he would prefer to forget. Neville Chamberlain's foreign policy might be remembered to Mr Major's disadvantage. The legend of his assault on the gilts market in 1932, when he called in the national debt and refinanced it at half the interest rate, is another memory Mr Major would not wish to revive. Yet the forgotten fact is that the Chamberlain strategy was a great economic success: the world's fastest growth, more than 4 per cent, for six years. So it is for this column to rush in where Mr Major dare not tread, and draft the speech that he will never make.

"I am too much of a politician to complain that life is unfair; but the fact remains that it is. Only a few weeks ago the markets defeated my central economic and European strategy, and my dismay and humiliation were plain to see; yet already I am accused by the Irish, of all people — the one government with an economic record that makes my own look good — of a deliberate betrayal of the European cause. What I have actually done, though I certainly did not plan it, is to show that only volunteers need join in the coming German recession. In a matter of weeks, we have developed a completely new approach; yet I am accused of dithering. We were accused of following bad official advice on economic policy — a view which, as the old advisers well know, I heartily shared. So we appointed new, outside advisers to give us a better steer: yet as soon as we follow their well-publicised advice, I am accused of acting out of panic. It is time to explain.

"When everything came apart in September, it was clearly time to re-examine everything we had until then believed, and it proved a painful process. We believed that inflation was our central problem, but it was falling of its own accord. We had preached sound finance, yet our own finances were collapsing into an Italian condition. We had argued that the balance of payments was a matter for the private sector, which saved too little, and no direct concern of the government: yet the deficit was growing despite rising private saving. It was clearly reflecting the government deficit.

Yet the government deficit was caused mainly by a collapse of revenue due to the recession; and anything we might do to attack it directly, whether through taxes or spending cuts, might make matters will worse. We were up a creek, and would not even know what to do with a paddle.

"That, as I came to understand, is what the markets were telling us on what I still called Black Wednesday. Then it began to dawn on me that perhaps it wasn't so black; that the exchange rate the markets found credible — for we let them set it without any nudging — might be an opportunity rather than a disaster. But if our salvation was to be sought in exportled growth, there was another problem. As our depressing Opposition keeps saying, we are short of capacity to make exports — I admitted as much only the other day. And that means that we cannot rely on a temporary rest from a demanding regime. Our central aim must be to ensure that Britain is and remains the most attractive place in Europe for manufacturing investment; in other words, a competitive exchange rate for as long as possible, and an attractive tax regime for many years.

"The exchange rate, as we know now, is not under our control. If our partners come to their senses, it will become rather less competitive, though at least we will have got in first. But the tax regime is, and we mean to keep it that way. No social chapter, minimum growth for the Brussels budget. This may be denounced as anti-European, but it's just commonsense; and do our partners really want a huge depressed area off their northwest coast? Anyway, you all know about sticks and stones; and you now know our view. Trade on it.

THE MOMENT HAS ARRIVED

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JOHN CHARCOL

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ALSO AT LEEDS 0532-470338

Typical example: joint borrowers, both non-smokers, aged 30 years next, with an endowment mortgage of £40,000 on a property valued at £55,000, repaid over 25 years. Gross repayments of £231.67 each of the first 36 months at an interest rate of 6.95% (8.1% APR) thereafter, 264 monthly repayments of £266.34 at the current variable rate of 7.99% (8.3% APR). Total amount payable £84,274.71 calculated to include a lenders arrangement fee of £225, £100 legal fees, £140 valuation fee, £183.84 accrued interest, 300 monthly low cost endowment premiums of £53.80. Loans subject to status, type and value of property. John Charcol Limited is a member of FIMBRA. Pensions, endowments and other investments are regulated by FIMBRA. Mortgages and credit facilities advertised here are not regulated by the Financial Services Act (1986) and the rules made for the protection of investors by the Act will not apply to them. Building insurance may be required. Credit broker fees of up to 1% on the advance may be charged depending on the type of product and credit period. John Charcol Ltd is a licensed credit broker. Be sure you can afford the repayments before entering into a credit agreement.

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Brittan draws up battle plan over US steel import duties

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

SIR Leon Brittan will today lay before EC foreign ministers his battle plan for the steel war with Washington.

Despite reassuring the public to the contrary, the external economic affairs commissioner will probably admit to *Douglas Hurd and his* colleagues Brussels' real fear that the Clinton administration's advent heralds a protectionist era in US trade policy.

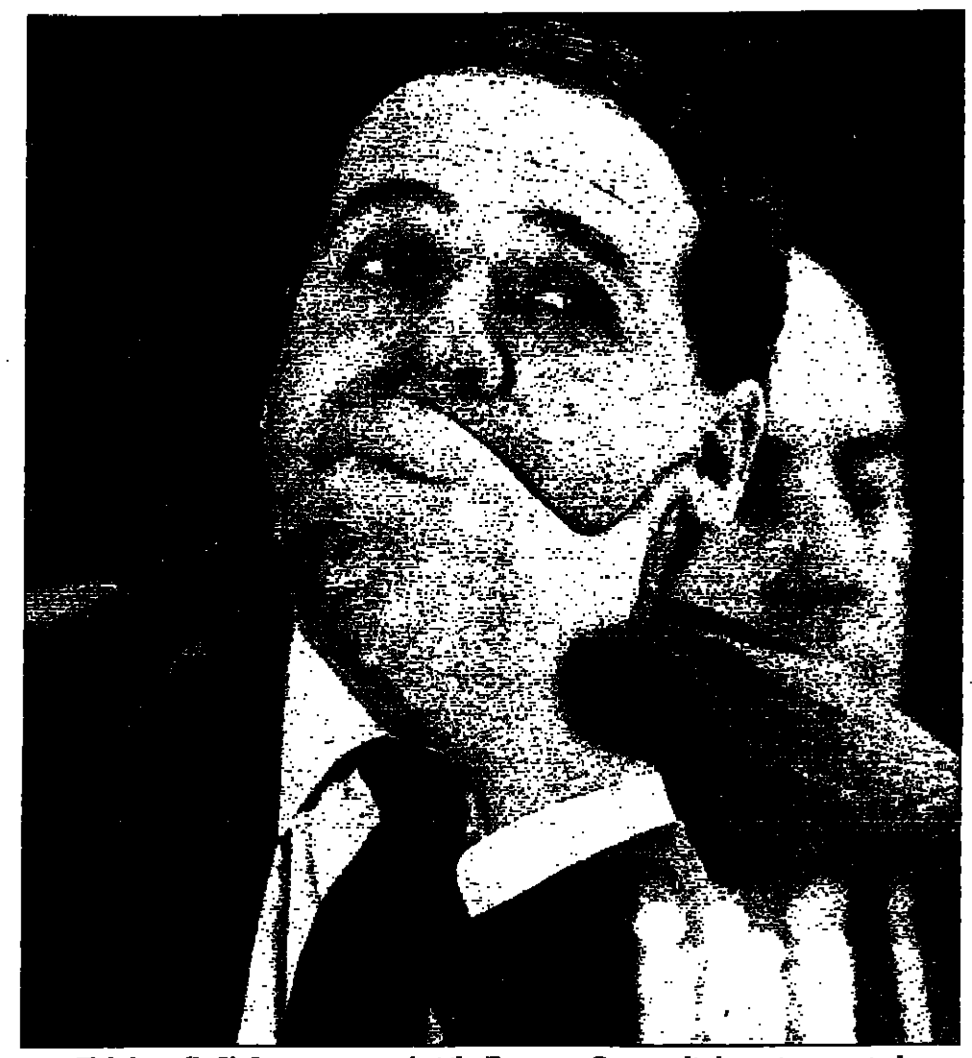
The commission is split over how to react, with Sir Leon fighting the liberal cause against Brussels colleagues who want to see European industry better protected. Meanwhile, the French government has called for EC agreements to allow more steel imports from eastern and central Europe to be scrapped.

The French press has reflected the belief in Paris that President Clinton will keep his election promises to US industry. Big coverage was given to the threat to use section 301 of the US trade act more widely. *It allows protectionist measures* when US industry is threatened.

Usinor-Sacilor, France's main steelmaker, is expected to report a £300 million loss for 1992, and the loss of 500,000 tonnes in exports to the US because of last week's duties will only add to its woes. The response of Dominique Strauss-Kahn, French industry minister, is simple: block East European imports into the EC.

This brought a bitter response from Jacques Attali, president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, who told M *Strauss-Kahn that meeting* protectionism with protectionism can only exacerbate the world recession. In Brussels, Sir Leon has proposed that Czech and Slovak steel imports to the EC be raised by 35 per cent from 1991 levels, which has thrown him into conflict with Martin Bangemann, industry commissioner, who is trying to keep Germany's steel sector alive. First quarter sales at Thyssen, Germany's biggest steelmaker, are 16 per cent down.

The crisis could not have come at a worse time for Sir Leon, who as chief EC Gatt negotiator is aware that President Clinton's "fast-track" mandate to approve a world trade deal runs out in March. Beyond then Congress can inspect any Gatt agreement, opening the way for objections from Washington lobbies. Sir Leon has a tough task convincing ministers tomorrow the EC can present a united front over steel duties, and that a Gatt settlement in the spring is still realistic. He may recall his competition portfolio as having been a bit of a picnic.



Fighting talk: Sir Leon proposes that the European Community imports more steel

Dumping charge 'exaggerated'

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

ALLEGATIONS that *European producers have been dumping steel, which pro*voked Washington to impose tariffs, have been labelled by a profitable US steel maker as an exaggerated charge from big American steel companies mired in losses and desperate to raise prices.

The duties more than double the price of the 35,000 tonnes of British Steel plate entering America, which represents about a fifth of total *BS sales to the US.*

The duty on flat rolled steel was set at the maximum 109.22 per cent for Britain and Brazil. The duty for other countries was set lower, but affects bigger tonnages.

European producers have insisted they have not been dumping. They say prices for steel in America are determined by overcapacity and efficient American niche producers, whose low costs allow *them to sell significantly be*low America's largest steel makers. "There's some truth in the Europeans' claims," said Kenneth Iverson, head of Nucor Corporation, America's seventh-largest steel company and the only one of the top seven that is profitable.

"These tariffs have been the Big Boys looking after the Big Boys. We are opposed to this kind of protectionism."

Loss in France restrains Bullough

BY MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

A SHARP decline into loss at the office products division sent pre-tax profits into reverse at Bullough, the industrial holding company. The group made £8.54 million in the year to end-October after £20.85 million last time.

But Bullough is dipping into reserves, and the total dividend is being held at 6.05p by means of an unchanged final payment of 4.30p.

Derrick Battle, the chairman, said the non-recurrence of heavy losses at the group's French office furniture division should lead to a recovery in overall profitability this year, and the group remained "cautiously optimistic".

Office products plunged to a £736,000 operating loss, from profits of £7.82 million, with £5.8 million of the decline coming from losses by the French business.

New management was installed in France towards the end of the year, and restructuring was necessary. Exceptional items of £3.32 million for the group include £2.4 million of costs from French restructuring.

Capital expenditure and acquisitions meant a net cash outflow of £2.8 million for the year.

The devaluation of sterling left French borrowings higher by £4.6 million but the move added £6.5 million to total French assets.

The group ended the year with net borrowings totalling £15.3 million, or gearing of 17 per cent.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Haynes Publishing ahead at half time

A STRONG American performance and reduced borrowings helped Haynes Publishing to achieve a 34 per cent pre-tax profits advance, to £1.51 million (£1.13 million), in the six months to November 30. Turnover was slightly ahead at £11.1 million (£10.9 million). The company's North American operations accounted for 42.9 per cent of sales and 59.7 per cent of operating profits.

Haynes publishes car and motor-cycle manuals, 300 in the UK and 250 in the United States. The interim dividend is raised to 3.5p a share, against 2.5p last time. Borrowings were reduced to about £156,000 at the half-year end, against £1.3 million last time and £5.2 million in 1990. Haynes shares rose 15p to 288p.

BOC buys drug assets

BOC Group, the gases, healthcare and vacuum technology company, has bought assets relating to the Brevibloc drug from the Du Pont Merck Pharmaceutical Company for $72.5 million. Brevibloc is a short-acting intravenous beta blocker used to control heart rate and blood pressure in the operating theatre and critical care settings. *Du Pont Merck* is a partnership between E I Du Pont de Nemours and Merck and Co. The deal includes a supply agreement for Du Pont Merck to make the product for BOC Health Care.

BP prospects in Algeria

BP hopes an oil and gas exploration deal with Sonatrach, the Algerian state company, will lead to development and production. BP will explore for oil and gas in a 6,000 sq km concession in Algeria's Tellian Atlas Mountains. It will act as operator for the Sour-El-Ghozlane concession, 100 km south of Algiers. "We hope the exploration we are about to begin will prove to be the first stage in the building of a substantive business with discoveries leading to oil development and production," said John Browne, chief executive of BP Exploration.

MBO from Microvitec

MICROVITEC, *the information systems and services group, has sold its Logitek distribution business to its management* for £2.5 million, with £200,000 deferred over two years. Microvitec, which reduces its gearing below 50 per cent, retains a 20 per cent interest. The net asset value of the business, which operated at a loss, is £3 million. James Bailey, Microvitec chairman, said: "Logitek is a high-volume, low-margin business which has required a disproportionate amount of management time and working capital."

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373				
Mastertrust	106.50	113.90	- 1.40	1.65
International	78.15	83.13	- 1.38	1.23
Dividend Gth	54.91	58.41†	- 0.33	5.14
Global Gth Sec	59.19	62.96	+ 0.15	3.16
Ethical Growth	62.98	67.00	+ 0.36	2.88
High Inc Equity	145.70	155.00†	+ 0.90	5.48
Worldwide Bond	260.50	276.10†	+ 3.60	4.53
Gilts Fixed Int	128.50	136.30†	- 0.30	6.97
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580. 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	43.17	45.58	+ 1.01	1.86
European	75.93	80.47†	+ 1.16	...
European Inc	76.37	80.97	+ 1.02	1.65
Exempt	887.90	915.70†	+ 8.10	3.34
Extra Inc	41.36	44.98	+ 0.64	5.59
F East Emerg Ec	75.43	81.19	+ 1.75	0.79
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	370.60	396.10	+ 8.30	4.31
Equity Inc	204.70	218.80†	+ 4.70	4.81
High Yield	228.00	243.70	+ 4.80	4.26
Balanced	622.40	665.30	+10.70	2.83
American Inc	46.84	50.07†	+ 1.21	3.40
Wld Asset Val	36.38	38.89	+ 0.73	1.98
Japan	137.30	146.00†	+ 3.80	0.01
Secs of Am	424.90	452.40	+11.80	0.34
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	305.20	324.70	+ 3.40	3.03
-do- Inc	218.80	232.80	+ 2.50	3.03
Higher Inc Acc	539.20	573.70	+ 4.40	4.26
-do- Inc	332.60	353.90	+ 2.70	4.26
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	171.80	181.40	+ 0.70	6.65
-do- Inc	92.55	97.75	+ 0.39	6.65
Nth America	273.80	291.30	+10.10	...
Far East	245.10	260.80	+ 2.50	0.27
Europe	207.60	220.90	- 0.50	1.30
General Inc	412.30	438.70	+ 6.10	2.70
-do- Acc	449.10	477.80	+ 6.80	2.70
Brit Excell	62.11	66.08	- 0.31	3.18
Brit Fndmtls Inc	63.34	67.39	- 0.61	5.26
Brit Fndmtls Acc	80.70	85.86	- 0.77	5.26
Global Opps	66.97	71.25	+ 0.97	0.02
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544				
Capital	105.30	112.60	+ 0.80	3.31
Euro Gth Inc	108.20	114.60	+ 1.10	1.22
Extra Inc	101.20	108.20	+ 0.50	5.55
General	232.60	248.80	+ 1.30	3.47
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.17	59.15	+ 0.15	8.78
Income	452.70	484.20†	- 3.00	5.01
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	95.63	101.50	+ 3.70	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	*124.90*	*133.70*	*+ 4.50*	...
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	50.30	53.79†	+ 0.20	7.60
Eastern	168.00	181.10	+ 5.10	1.70
Equity Income	75.35	80.15	+ 0.47	6.70
European Gth	214.60	228.30	+ 2.40	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	145.90	156.10	+ 0.90	2.00
Exempt	79.02	81.22†	...	3.90
German Growth	51.10	54.55	+ 0.42	0.80
Global Growth	105.30	112.50	+ 2.80	...
Japan Growth	153.00	164.10†	+ 4.40	...
Japan Sunrise	128.10	136.70	+ 4.10	...
Portfolio	113.50	121.60	+ 1.60	3.40
-do- Acc	200.70	215.00	+ 2.90	3.40
UK Growth	72.77	77.41	+ 0.37	3.20
UK Smaller Cos	73.08	78.16	+ 0.40	2.00
Select Managers	60.78	65.12	+ 0.98	2.10
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	100.59	107.58	+ 1.24	2.39
-do- Inc	92.13	98.53	+ 1.14	2.39
Global Bond	29.12	30.90	+ 0.71	5.78
High Yield Acc	49.99	53.47	+ 0.42	4.52
-do- Inc	36.64	39.19†	+ 0.31	4.52
Smlr Cos Acc	81.97	87.66	+ 0.95	1.81
-do- Inc	75.80	81.07	+ 0.88	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	57.99	62.03	+ 1.91	0.29
-do- Inc	56.91	60.87†	+ 1.87	0.29
Euro Gth Acc	92.88	99.33	+ 1.09	1.78
-do- Inc	92.02	98.42	+ 1.08	1.78
Mngd P folio	33.37	35.69	+ 0.62	1.54
Pacific Growth	84.51	90.38	+ 2.39	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	82.53	88.27	+ 1.57	1.09
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	108.60	115.70	+ 1.30	3.84
Smaller Cos Acc	253.60	270.10	+ 1.80	...
Smaller Cos Inc	148.50	158.10	+ 1.00	1.46
High Inc	70.88	75.84	+ 0.51	7.28
Income	121.70	130.00	- 0.20	4.46
Mngd P folio Inc	88.25	93.99†	+ 0.63	2.21
-do- Acc	165.20	175.90	+ 1.10	...
North American	110.10	117.20†	+ 3.80	0.19
Orient	96.91	104.20	+ 2.70	...
Recovery	35.19	37.83	- 0.47	3.12
German	39.36	42.20	- 0.34	0.10
Intl Growth	32.61	34.73	+ 0.89	0.23
European Inc	21.74	23.41	+ 0.23	0.48
Conv General	19.07	20.40	+ 0.18	8.18
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	61.75	65.70	+ 0.52	1.26
-do- Acc	68.86	73.26	+ 0.58	1.26
Income Fund 5	205.60	218.80	+ 2.10	4.08
-do- Acc	467.50	497.40	+ 4.70	4.13
Inv Portfolio	65.50	67.88	+ 0.55	2.30
-do- Acc	73.37	76.04	+ 0.62	2.30
Smaller Cos	111.80	119.00†	+ 1.30	2.34
-do- Acc	134.40	143.00	+ 1.60	2.28
High Inc P folio	57.64	59.77†	+ 0.42	4.92
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL. 071 480 7216				
Stn Gilt Fxd Int	68.91	69.83	+ 0.01	5.96
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	131.20	139.60†	+ 0.40	1.83
UK Growth	139.60	148.60	- 0.10	2.46
UK Income	119.30	127.20	+ 0.60	4.64
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	76.61	81.94	+ 2.21	1.14
Growth	43.61	46.64†	+ 0.44	3.06
Income	51.04	54.59†	+ 0.36	4.36
Far East	40.07	42.85	+ 1.54	0.35
North American	86.12	92.80	+ 3.04	0.01
Global	81.19	86.84	+ 2.24	0.69
European	63.56	67.98	- 0.74	1.38
Japan	83.93	89.76	+ 2.55	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	58.16	61.63	+ 1.60	7.23
UK Cap Gwth	75.62	81.31	+ 1.04	2.35

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	132.20	140.70	+ 3.80	0.06
-do- Acc	140.60	149.60	+ 4.00	0.06
European	64.44	68.26	+ 0.96	1.11
-do- Acc	66.79	70.75	+ 1.00	1.11
Far East Gen	47.17	50.19	- 1.45	...
-do- Acc	47.17	50.19	+ 1.45	...
Glenfriars	235.50	250.60	+ 4.90	1.36
-do- Acc	264.50	281.40	+ 5.40	1.36
Growth	365.80	391.30	+ 2.70	2.60
-do- Acc	621.90	665.20	+ 4.40	2.60
Income Growth	357.20	380.00†	+ 3.30	4.17
-do- Acc	474.50	504.80	+ 4.30	4.17
Master Portfolio	9199.0	9509.0†	+125.0	2.89
-do- Acc	10613.0	10971.0	+144.0	2.89
Special Sits	83.39	88.72†	+ 0.64	2.57
-do- Acc	97.60	103.84	+ 0.76	2.57
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1152.0	1188.0	-10.00	4.70
-do- Acc	1334.0	1376.0	+12.00	4.70
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	194.10	206.60	+ 4.30	1.76
Capital	515.90	550.50	+ 5.70	2.55
Eurotrack 100	126.00	134.00	+ 1.60	1.79
Euro Gth	76.65	81.60†	+ 0.73	1.92
Far East Growth	76.14	81.25†	+ 0.95	0.52
Global Bond	22.80	24.05†	+ 0.30	6.61
Hong Kong	65.63	70.04	+ 0.34	0.72
Income	487.90	520.60	+ 5.70	4.84
Intl Growth	69.97	74.67	+ 1.38	1.16
Japan Growth	200.50	213.90	+ 4.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	25.41	27.11	+ 0.63	...
Japan Index	59.21	63.19	+ 1.04	0.32
Nth American	422.00	450.30	+ 8.90	1.00
S pore Mly Gth	48.68	51.95	+ 0.58	...
The Footsie Fd	105.50	111.40	+ 1.30	2.56
Tiger Index	132.30	141.10	+ 3.20	1.00
Trixie Index	97.92	104.50	+ 0.90	3.07
UK Index	119.20	127.20†	+ 1.60	3.39
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	81.45	86.88	...	1.00
European P folio	68.06	72.33	...	1.38
Japanese P folio	47.94	50.93	+ 1.27	...
Pacific P folio	85.22	91.64	+ 1.85	2.43
Cazenove P folio	65.90	70.49†	...	3.00
UK Income Gth	60.06	64.40	...	5.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	582.90	586.60	...	5.08
Fixed Int	151.95	152.70	...	9.50
Deposit	6.80	...	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	573.11	578.96	...	5.16
-do- Acc	2209.5	2215.6	...	...
Deposit	6.70	...	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	124.00	124.28	...	9.33
-do- Acc	159.85	160.17	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	62.06	66.33	+ 3.27	2.48
Beckman Intl	76.80	81.07	+ 1.58	4.93
Friars Hse Inc	174.08	186.23†	+ 4.94	6.62
Friars Hse Cap	241.47	258.37	+ 5.69	2.99
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	108.97	115.93	+ 3.59	...
European Gth	89.18	94.87	+ 1.23	1.45
Far East Gth	90.09	95.84	+ 2.47	0.41
Japan Gth Acc	32.43	34.50	+ 0.96	...
Managed	59.16	62.94	- 0.76	3.08
-do- Acc	71.44	76.00	+ 0.90	3.08
Mthly Inc Plus	46.11	49.05	+ 0.24	8.93
Smaller Cos	30.90	32.87†	- 0.59	2.25
-do- Acc	34.82	37.04	+ 0.22	2.25
UK General	66.59	70.84	+ 0.69	2.81
-do- Acc	79.84	84.94	+ 0.83	2.81
Wwide Bd	63.21	67.24	+ 1.26	5.74
-do- Acc	79.20	84.25	+ 1.57	5.74
Wwide Sp Sits	51.61	55.20†	+ 1.32	0.33
-do- Acc	53.66	57.39	+ 1.38	0.33
Quilter General	120.76	128.47	+ 1.34	2.53
-do- Acc	132.92	141.40	+ 1.47	2.53
Quilter Income	88.62	94.28†	+ 0.50	4.11
-do- Acc	109.21	116.18	+ 0.62	4.11
Quilter Intl	119.45	127.07	+ 3.43	0.51
-do- Acc	121.10	128.83	+ 3.48	0.51
Quilter UK Spec	68.18	72.53	+ 0.84	2.55
-do- Acc	90.21	95.97	+ 1.12	2.55
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	95.89	102.01	+ 1.47	1.93
Fixed Conv	39.10	41.60	- 0.61	8.42
-do- Acc	102.06	108.57	+ 0.34	8.42
Equity Inc	136.35	145.05	- 1.60	4.23
-do- Acc	438.35	466.54	- 3.61	4.23
High Yield	112.97	120.18†	+ 0.80	5.32
-do- Acc	422.83	449.82	+ 2.99	5.32
Preference	46.38	49.34†	+ 0.88	8.06
-do- Acc	234.66	249.64	+ 4.48	8.06
PPT Europe	141.65	150.69	+ 1.39	0.75
PPT Global Bnd	81.46	86.66	+ 1.99	4.52
PPT Gold Com	46.01	48.94	+ 1.40	...
PPT Thai	56.25	59.84	+ 1.18	...
PPT Hong Kong	88.07	93.69	+ 2.06	0.66
PPT Japan	89.46	95.17	+ 2.84	...
PPT N Amer	150.00	159.57	+ 5.13	...
PPT S'pore Mly	97.02	103.21	+ 3.15	...
PPT UK	112.86	120.06	+ 1.09	1.54
PPT Cash	90.83	90.83	- 0.04	4.44
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	70.41	74.90	+ 1.49	1.06
Japanese Acc	45.97	48.90	+ 1.28	...
UK Balncd Inc	120.30	128.00†	- 0.60	2.62
-do- Acc	140.40	149.40†	- 0.70	2.62
UK Growth Acc	199.40	212.10	+ 0.90	2.28
UK High Inc	127.20	135.80	+ 0.20	6.99
-do- Acc	150.80	160.40	+ 0.30	6.99
N America Acc	115.00	122.30	+ 3.30	0.32
European Acc	143.90	153.10	+ 1.70	0.46
UK Pref F/I Inc	59.44	63.08†	+ 0.03	8.96
-do- Acc	95.93	101.80†	...	8.96
Intl Sp Sits Acc	44.57	47.20	+ 1.00	0.24
Environmntl Opp	69.72	74.17	+ 0.41	1.50
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	112.10	119.10	+ 4.70	...
UK Smlr Cos	172.20	183.00	+ 1.20	1.37
Eurofund	36.15	38.21†	+ 0.41	1.05
Mngd Exempt	159.10	165.90	+ 1.50	3.16
Growth Inc	208.60	221.60†	+ 0.20	4.06
High Dist	134.70	143.10	+ 2.00	6.04
International	305.40	324.50	+ 4.00	1.00
Intl Income	77.79	83.04†	+ 1.08	3.13
Pacific	52.93	56.24	- 0.90	0.53
Smllr Jap Cos	51.78	55.07	- 1.30	...
Tokyo	157.10	167.10	+ 4.20	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan Exempt	86.17	88.54	+ 2.85	0.59
Stn Jap Exempt	414.80	426.20	+ 4.20	0.12
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	161.10	171.30	...	1.22
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	102.40	107.79	+ 1.31	3.74
High Income	117.26	123.43	+ 1.72	5.11
Tst of Inv Trts	134.62	141.71	+ 2.00	2.58
Special Sits	83.03	87.40	+ 1.35	3.42
North American	108.86	114.59	+ 2.92	1.13
Far Eastern	201.01	211.59	+ 4.25	1.58
Intl Growth	87.88	92.50	+ 1.59	1.59
European	60.99	64.20	+ 0.72	2.18
Smaller Cos	67.28	70.82	+ 0.69	2.46
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	220.70	232.80	+ 6.40	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00†	...	6.70
European Tst	104.80	111.50	+ 0.90	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	88.62	93.84	+ 1.53	0.69
Far Eastern	110.40	118.30	+ 3.70	...
Oseas Income	85.06	91.02	+ 2.32	2.75
UK Growth	90.11	96.37†	+ 0.82	1.38
UK Income	99.11	106.00	+ 0.70	3.99
US Smaller Cos	225.90	241.60	+ 8.00	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	431.00	460.90	+13.70	...
-do- Acc	440.30	470.80	+14.00	...
Capital	277.20	294.80	+ 0.70	2.33
-do- Acc	382.60	406.90	+ 0.90	2.33
Contl Smllr Cos	43.91	47.44	+ 0.71	1.43
-do- Acc	45.43	49.09	+ 0.74	1.43
Convertible	105.20	111.90†	+ 0.70	6.38
-do- Acc	194.80	207.20†	+ 1.20	6.38
European	93.56	100.10	+ 1.14	0.83
-do- Acc	96.68	103.40	+ 1.10	0.83
Extra Income	273.90	291.30†	+ 1.80	4.64
-do- Acc	383.60	408.00†	+ 2.70	4.64
Financial	102.60	110.30	+ 2.50	0.73
-do- Acc	106.80	114.80	+ 2.60	0.73
Health Fund Inc	130.20	139.10	+ 3.60	...
-do- Acc	130.20	139.10	+ 3.60	...
Income Tst	170.10	180.90	+ 1.40	4.32
-do- Acc	237.10	252.20	+ 2.10	4.32
Ind Growth	302.20	321.80	+ 7.20	...
-do- Acc	335.50	358.40	+ 8.00	...
Japan Gen	130.70	140.00	+ 4.20	...
-do- Acc	132.00	141.40	+ 4.20	...
Mngd P folio Inc	87.62	92.23	+ 0.98	1.11
-do- Acc	90.48	95.24	+ 1.01	1.11
Monthly Income	139.40	148.20†	- 0.60	4.70
Recovery	282.60	302.20†	+ 5.60	0.78
-do- Acc	330.00	352.90†	+ 6.60	0.78
Gilt Gth Tst	60.48	62.37	+ 0.12	7.17
-do- Acc	75.93	78.29	+ 0.14	7.17
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	337.70	359.26	+ 1.75	3.05
-do- Acc	681.87	725.39	+ 3.54	3.05
Euro Gth Dist	98.64	104.94†	+ 1.10	1.19
-do- Acc	101.59	108.07†	+ 1.13	1.19
Fixed Int Dist	128.79	136.23	+ 0.19	6.72
-do- Acc	213.76	226.11	+ 0.30	6.72
Intl Gth Dist	70.83	75.35	+ 1.42	0.84
-do- Acc	73.27	77.95	+ 1.48	0.84
Nth Amer Dist	166.94	176.99†	+ 4.73	0.67
-do- Acc	181.19	192.10†	+ 5.13	0.67
Pac Basin Dist	207.16	220.38†	+ 4.43	0.38
-do- Acc	210.34	223.77†	+ 4.50	0.38
Stewardship Dist	284.37	302.52	+ 1.34	1.98
-do- Acc	336.44	357.91	+ 1.59	1.98
Stwd Inc Dist	58.11	61.82†	+ 0.23	3.98
-do- Acc	71.30	75.85†	+ 0.29	3.98
N Am Stwd Dist	94.86	100.92†	+ 3.01	0.05
-do- Acc	100.35	106.76†	+ 3.19	0.05
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 2575. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	142.90	152.50	+ 5.50	...
European	381.30	404.60	+ 4.90	0.98
Far East General	185.80	197.50	+ 5.00	0.33
Germany	91.33	96.71	+ 1.36	0.42
Global Assets In	63.91	68.36	+ 1.25	2.25
Global Assets Ac	66.97	71.63	+ 1.31	2.22
Income	105.70	113.10	+ 0.40	7.45
International	242.50	259.40	+ 5.90	1.01
Intl Income	73.34	78.11	+ 1.75	4.72
Japan General	290.60	307.90	+ 9.40	...
Smllr Cos Div	44.64	47.75†	- 0.28	6.35
UK Capital Inc	147.80	158.10†	+ 0.10	4.17
-do- Acc	252.80	270.40	+ 2.50	4.06
Uk Spec Sits	67.62	72.33	+ 1.29	1.69
US General	111.50	118.70	+ 3.70	0.11
W wide Spec Sits	111.20	119.00	+ 2.70	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	42.51	45.47†	+ 0.34	1.30
Cash Trust*	127.11	127.11	+ 0.04	5.89
Pract Inv Inc	97.78	104.86	+ 1.00	4.24
-do- Acc	208.76	223.87	+ 2.14	4.24
UK Smaller Cos	91.91	98.56	+ 1.00	1.84
Income Funds				
Preference Share	23.65	25.29†	+ 0.06	8.62
High Inc	29.71	31.78†	...	5.66
UK Equity Inc	120.36	128.73†	- 1.67	4.68
Intl Fxd Int	29.46	30.53	+ 0.68	5.21
International Funds				
Gold Intl	60.84	65.24	+ 1.40	1.79
Frontier Markets	40.33	43.25	+ 0.83	0.28
Global Inc Gth	116.50	124.34	+ 2.18	2.73
UK Intl	107.26	114.72	+ 0.91	1.20
Overseas Funds				
American	127.95	136.63	+ 4.00	0.59
European	78.95	83.75	+ 1.05	0.97
Euro Sel Opps	90.01	95.74†	+ 0.93	1.30
American Emerg	76.92	82.49	+ 3.03	...
Hong Kong	95.78	102.71	- 1.66	2.13
Japan	160.00	170.25	+ 5.71	...
Pacific Growth	132.59	142.19	+ 3.61	0.54
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	114.21	122.15	+ 1.08	0.95
American Gth	119.22	127.51	+ 1.60	0.35
European Gth	65.16	69.69	+ 0.78	0.82
German Hortzn	46.09	49.15	+ 0.84	0.92
Japan Gth	59.97	64.14	+ 1.84	...
Pacific Inc	117.35	125.51	+ 3.35	3.22
Pacific Strategy	94.22	100.77	+ 0.30	...
UK Prog Inc	66.38	70.16	+ 3.15	6.11
Gt British Cos	46.33	49.20	- 0.77	2.00
UK Small Cos	41.33	44.20	- 1.08	2.60
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668				
Cash	129.80	129.80	...	6.07
Gilt Fixed	118.70	125.90	- 0.30	6.68
Growth Equity	277.10	296.00	+ 1.30	2.30
Guardhill	409.50	437.40	+ 1.70	2.52

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Income Trust	101.10	108.00	+ 0.40	4.63
International	145.00	154.90	+ 3.10	0.26
Japan Trust	98.38	105.10†	+ 2.30	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	249.70	266.70	+ 6.50	0.44
Pacific	314.30	335.70	+ 7.70	...
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	319.90	341.70	+ 3.60	0.53
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	33.01	36.00	- 0.10	1.87
-do- Acc	34.56	36.64	+ 0.10	1.87
Inc Adv Inc	28.10	29.79	- 0.10	4.41
-do- Acc	28.97	30.71	- 0.10	4.41
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	63.12	67.62	+ 2.00	0.64
Equity Income	108.10	115.00	+ 0.70	3.85
European	127.80	135.10	+ 1.50	1.52
Intl Situation	69.19	73.61	+ 1.14	...
Japanese	107.80	114.60	+ 2.90	...
North American	102.10	108.30	- 3.60	0.06
Scandinavian	98.58	104.20	+ 1.40	0.60
Smaller Cos	28.47	30.29†	+ 0.07	2.64
HENDERSON PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	92.01	98.40	+ 3.08	...
Asian Enterprise	110.39	118.29	+ 2.62	1.15
Australian	120.15	128.43	+ 2.65	1.38
European	338.92	359.12	+ 4.39	1.23
European Inc	65.28	69.12†	+ 0.16	3.09
Euro Smnl Co	113.66	121.28	+ 1.02	1.30
Extra Income	245.95	261.82	+ 2.12	5.31
Family of Funds	64.63	68.99†	+ 0.08	1.50
Fixed Interest	54.92	58.73	+ 0.09	8.34
Global Resour	76.38	81.99†	+ 2.35	1.63
High Inc	265.22	283.51†	+ 1.83	4.77
Income Gth	224.22	238.78	+ 1.73	3.94
-do- Acc	564.24	600.90	+ 4.35	3.94
International	215.39	229.26	+ 4.89	0.97
Japan Spc Sit	178.16	189.53	+ 6.30	...
Japan	154.41	164.11†	+ 5.12	...
N Amer	231.24	246.10†	+ 8.17	0.21
Pacific Smllr Cos	149.20	160.16	+ 4.18	1.49
Pref Gilt	45.09	49.00†	+ 0.05	9.04
Smaller Cos Div	149.46	162.90†	+ 0.96	4.58
Special Sits	248.41	265.79	+ 3.66	1.57
-do- Acc	380.44	407.06	+ 5.60	1.57
Best of British	53.63	57.35	+ 0.64	2.38
Spirit of the East	51.19	54.64	+ 1.34	0.71
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	85.20	91.12	+ 0.26	2.33
Capital	147.50	157.70	+ 0.80	2.49
Dollar	303.10	324.10	+ 8.50	0.29
European	182.60	195.30	+ 1.30	0.59
Far East	210.70	225.30†	+ 4.30	0.68
Financial	625.50	668.90	...	2.67
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.26	26.24†	+ 0.08	8.28
High Yield	96.03	102.70	+ 1.30	5.34
Income	*127.40*	*136.20*	*+ 0.30*	*3.69*
Intl	198.10	211.80†	+ 3.30	0.53
Japan Tech	52.99	56.67†	- 1.60	...
Nat Resources	51.89	55.49	- 0.46	0.60
Security	282.90	302.50	- 0.40	2.20
Smaller Cos	103.20	110.30	+ 0.70	1.77
Special Sits	128.20	137.10	- 1.20	2.39
US Smaller Cos	73.32	78.41	+ 2.86	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS 36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673				
Brit O seas	237.70	250.20	+ 1.50	1.44
Capital Gwth	100.60	105.90	...	2.53
Inv Trusts	115.30	121.40	...	0.79
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	21.70	23.19	+ 0.24	1.88
Special Features	25.63	27.23	- 0.35	1.65
-do- Acc	30.06	31.93	+ 0.41	1.65
General Funds				
UK Growth	51.14	54.78	+ 0.70	2.71
Assets Earnings	67.92	72.16†	+ 0.73	2.08
do Acc	79.94	84.93†	+ 0.85	2.08
Managed Invest	79.07	84.52	+ 1.78	1.41
Expert Children	73.68	78.62	+ 0.88	1.78
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	51.44	51.44	+ 0.02	5.54
Extra Inc	74.48	79.94†	+ 0.53	5.46
Gilt	27.33	28.77†	+ 0.06	7.24
Income Gth	36.74	39.32	+ 0.35	3.83
MIMstar	75.45	77.45	+ 0.12	8.74
Preference	17.58	18.67	+ 0.07	7.15
UK Income	294.00	314.40	+ 2.20	3.66
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	51.27	54.47	+ 0.91	1.74
Property Shares	53.91	57.27	+ 1.34	2.27
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	134.50	141.60	+ 1.50	3.79
European Acc	105.50	111.90	+ 1.60	1.98
European Dist	100.40	106.50	+ 1.50	2.01
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	49.70	52.83	+ 1.84	1.04
European Perf	99.98	106.10	+ 1.20	1.32
-do- Acc	101.90	108.10	+ 1.30	1.32
Euro Small Cos	19.03	20.29	+ 0.24	0.84
French Growth	63.40	67.48	+ 0.37	0.69
-do- Acc	67.04	71.35	+ 0.40	0.69
Hong K/China	58.09	62.44†	+ 1.73	1.69
Intl Growth	47.09	50.03	+ 1.23	1.26
-do- Acc	47.09	50.03	+ 1.23	1.26
Japan Perf	25.42	26.99	+ 0.84	...
Accum Units	25.42	26.99	+ 0.84	...
Japan Smllr Cos	26.82	28.47	+ 0.81	...
Singapore Asean	67.50	73.25	+ 3.23	0.65
-do- Acc	67.92	73.71	+ 3.26	0.65
South East Asia	197.80	213.20	+ 7.90	0.95
US Smllr Cos	111.80	118.70	+ 4.20	...
-do- Acc	113.00	120.00	+ 4.20	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	78.55	83.71	+ 2.37	2.80
Intl Bond	57.01	57.76	+ 1.08	6.36
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	68.52	68.80†	+ 0.02	6.63
Extra Income	50.33	53.54†	+ 0.04	7.19
Gilt Yield	118.00	124.40†	+ 0.40	8.20
Global Income	182.30	193.90†	- 1.36	4.41
High Yield	126.60	134.70†	+ 0.88	6.48
Smllr Cos Div	41.18	43.81†	- 1.62	6.30
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	91.10	96.92	+ 2.30	...
North American	75.18	79.08	+ 1.81	0.24
European	123.70	131.60†	+ 1.50	0.90
Euro Special	73.75	78.46	+ 0.76	1.06
General	258.50	275.00†	+ 0.90	3.50
Japan	302.00	321.30	+ 4.70	...
Japanese Special	160.10	170.30	+ 1.00	...
Master Acc	207.80	221.10	+ 3.10	1.49
Pacific	226.40	240.90	+ 4.20	0.39
Smaller Cos	89.86	95.60	- 2.29	2.42
UK Equity Gth	33.15	35.27†	...	2.81
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	69.73	74.18†	+ 0.83	0.98
Extra Income	23.34	24.83†	- 0.11	3.80

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Far East	21.92	23.32	+ 0.31	1.00
Income Gwth	70.28	74.77	- 0.18	2.98
Intl Growth	47.59	50.63	+ 0.79	1.00
Japan	49.27	52.41†	+ 1.08	...
Maximum Dist*	100.20	102.20†	+ 0.20	8.33
N Amer Equity	39.69	42.22	+ 1.13	0.43
UK Equity	83.18	88.49	- 0.68	2.90
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	51.28	54.55†	+ 0.91	4.88
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	412.00	438.30	+ 4.70	3.01
Equity Acc	775.80	825.30	+ 8.70	3.01
Equity Income	87.08	92.64†	+ 0.78	5.30
European	90.90	96.70†	+ 0.75	1.71
Far Eastern	152.20	161.90	+ 3.70	0.36
Fixed Interest	49.19	52.33†	- 0.04	8.00
Gilt	89.84	95.27	+ 0.13	6.80
Global Growth	59.60	63.40	+ 0.95	1.57
Intl Bond	56.64	60.26	+ 1.34	5.40
Japanese	53.06	56.45	+ 1.38	...
Overseas Equity	87.97	93.58	- 1.42	0.89
Pacific Gth	75.26	80.06	- 7.64	1.50
North American	138.10	146.90†	+ 3.70	1.15
UK Recovery	72.73	77.37	+ 0.59	2.66
UK Smllr Cos	95.41	101.50†	+ 0.40	2.08
Worldwide	71.24	75.79	+ 0.91	2.72
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	306.60	326.20	+ 2.00	3.15
-do- Acc	664.10	706.50	+ 4.40	3.15
Contl Euro Gth	48.22	50.97	+ 0.65	1.59
-do- Acc	51.30	53.90	+ 0.68	1.59
Extra Inc	230.70	245.50	+ 4.40	4.11
-do- Acc	561.10	597.00	+10.90	4.11
German Gth	95.85	100.90	+ 1.77	0.33
-do- Acc	100.50	105.80	- 1.80	0.33
Income	432.80	460.50	+ 2.70	3.86
-do- Acc	1096.0	1167.0	+ 7.00	3.86
Japan Growth	72.43	77.06	+ 1.74	0.01
-do- Acc	72.68	77.32	+ 1.73	0.01
Master Trust	49.78	52.96	+ 0.42	1.33
-do- Acc	54.14	57.60	+ 0.46	1.33
N American Gen	187.30	199.30	+ 4.70	0.01
-do- Acc	216.30	230.20	+ 5.40	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	139.10	148.00	+ 4.30	0.01
-do- Acc	142.00	151.10	+ 4.40	0.01
Pacific Basin	176.30	187.60	- 1.40	0.51
-do- Acc	186.30	198.30	- 0.70	0.51
Small Cos Rec	290.30	305.60	+ 1.00	2.39
-do- Acc	374.40	394.20	+ 1.30	2.39
UK Growth	76.86	81.77	- 0.52	2.44
-do- Acc	89.61	95.34	+ 0.60	2.44
Worldwide Gth	259.80	276.40	- 5.20	0.26
-do- Acc	382.80	407.30	+ 7.70	0.26
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	74.90	80.37	+ 0.53	3.10
Income	57.40	61.59	+ 0.33	6.20
International	52.56	56.40	+ 1.06	0.90
American	60.06	64.44	+ 1.73	0.30
Japan	38.71	41.53	+ 1.10	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	*50.63*	*54.32*	*+ 0.66*	*2.10*
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	390.70	413.20†	+14.92	0.81
-do- Acc	482.10	509.90	+18.40	0.81
American Rec	401.20	424.30	+16.40	0.68
-do- Acc	459.00	485.40	+18.70	0.68
Am Sm Co Acc	121.80	128.70	+ 4.50	0.02
Australia Acc	125.50	132.80	+ 2.80	1.91
Capital	589.60	623.50†	+ 6.08	3.31
-do- Acc	650.90	687.90	+ 6.80	3.31
Commodity Acc	356.10	376.60	+ 7.80	1.49
Compnd Gth	772.50	816.90	+ 4.20	3.45
Dividend	32.20	34.50	+ 0.20	4.81
-do- Acc	125.40	134.20	+ 0.80	4.81
Equity Inc	272.90	292.00	+ 2.10	5.92
European Div	54.40	58.10†	+ 0.70	5.23
-do- Acc	61.50	65.70	+ 0.80	5.23
European Gen	357.90	378.50†	+ 6.00	1.81
-do- Acc	447.10	472.90	+ 7.40	1.81
Extra Yield	340.50	364.30	+ 2.70	5.12
-do- Acc	978.40	1046.8	+ 7.50	5.12
Far Eastern	243.40	257.40	+ 8.70	1.60
-do- Acc	319.20	337.60	+11.40	1.60
Fund of Inv	456.30	482.50	+ 3.90	2.61
-do- Acc	823.40	870.70	+ 7.10	2.61
General	49.90	52.80†	+ 0.20	4.10
-do- Acc	131.40	139.00	+ 0.50	4.10
Gilt Fxd Int	60.50	60.50†	+ 0.06	9.07
do Acc	149.30	149.50	...	9.07
Gold	33.00	34.90†	+ 1.10	2.39
-do- Acc	38.50	40.80	+ 1.30	2.39
High Inc	22.50	23.80	+ 0.20	5.34
-do- Acc	83.00	87.80	+ 0.40	5.34
Intl Growth	63.80	67.60†	+ 1.70	1.11
-do- Acc	110.00	116.50	+ 2.90	1.11
Intl Inc	85.60	91.10	+ 2.30	3.40
Japan Gen Acc	38.70	41.00	+ 1.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	108.80	115.00	+ 3.20	0.03
Midland	48.70	51.50	+ 0.10	4.77
-do- Acc	154.20	163.00	+ 0.50	4.77
Recovery	33.20	35.20†	+ 0.30	3.56
-do- Acc	52.10	55.30	+ 0.30	3.56
Second Gen	55.30	58.50†	+ 0.30	4.10
-do- Acc	135.10	142.90	+ 0.50	4.10
Smaller Cos	53.50	56.60†	+ 0.36	4.04
-do- Acc	101.40	107.30	+ 0.70	4.01
Trustee	35.40	37.40	+ 0.10	4.47
Charibond 3	$111.43	...	+ 0.10	9.68
Charifund 2	584.10	590.00†	+ 2.20	5.40
Pension ex 1	819.00	839.50	+ 3.60	4.73
NAACIF Inc 3	144.50	...	...	8.31
-do- Acc 3	‡1023.7	...	...	8.31
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 680066				
Inv Port Inc	128.30	137.20†	+ 1.48	2.61
-do- Acc	142.50	152.40†	+ 1.48	2.61
UK Income	105.50	112.80†	+ 1.08	3.18
-do- Acc	117.70	125.80†	+ 1.08	3.18
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 28 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	72.16	77.17†	+ 2.11	0.65
Far East (Pacific)	115.70	122.80	+ 3.70	0.47
Income Growth	69.18	73.43	+ 0.40	4.41
European	62.46	66.30	+ 0.69	2.09
Nth American	57.32	60.84	+ 2.16	1.19
UK Growth	72.89	77.37	+ 0.38	1.53
Intl Growth	83.55	88.69	+ 2.34	0.58
Charities	104.00	110.40	- 0.70	4.74
Intl Income	61.67	65.46	+ 0.96	4.89
Japan	39.27	41.68	+ 1.32	...
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	185.10	196.40	...	...
-do- Acc	197.80	209.80	...	...
Cash	100.20	100.20†	...	6.83
-do- Acc	127.60	127.60†	...	6.85
European Gth	182.50	193.70	...	0.36
-do- Acc	195.40	207.30	...	0.36
General	441.90	471.40	...	2.72
-do- Acc	828.50	883.80	...	2.72
Global Dist	129.90	136.30	...	5.41
-do- Acc	142.40	149.60	...	5.41
Income	132.20	141.00	...	5.16
-do- Acc	190.10	202.80	...	5.16
International	341.70	364.10†	...	1.14
-do- Acc	453.60	483.40†	...	1.14

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan	140.30	148.80†	...	...
-do- Acc	144.10	152.80†	...	...
New Europe	126.80	135.30	...	1.48
-do- Acc	126.80	135.30	...	1.48
Recovery	268.50	286.40	...	3.34
-do- Acc	335.50	357.90	...	3.34
European Inc	70.71	74.98†	...	3.13
-do- Acc	89.71	95.11†	...	3.13
Brit Blue Chip	69.42	73.95	...	3.61
-do- Acc	81.28	86.59	...	3.61
Portfolio	70.35	74.84	...	3.22
-do- Acc	78.82	83.86	...	3.22
Gold General	52.48	55.98	...	4.34
-do- Acc	53.20	56.75	...	4.34
Pacific	78.45	83.68	...	0.68
-do- Acc	82.93	88.46	...	0.68
UK Smaller Cos	47.23	50.38	...	1.77
-do- Acc	52.51	56.02	...	1.77
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 529 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	55.79	59.67	+ 0.53	3.73
-do- Acc	55.79	59.67	+ 0.53	3.73
British Dist	76.04	81.33	+ 1.00	2.44
-do- Acc	83.99	89.83	+ 1.10	2.44
European Gth	158.60	169.20	+ 2.00	0.37
-do- Acc	199.10	212.40	+ 2.50	0.37
Extra High Inc	66.55	70.11†	- 0.38	6.89
-do- Acc	114.00	121.90	+ 0.70	6.89
Gilt Fixed Int	56.00	58.36	+ 0.22	7.11
-do- Acc	145.40	151.50	+ 0.60	7.11
High Yield	206.90	221.30	+ 1.80	5.35
-do- Acc	474.70	507.70	+ 3.90	5.35
Income	267.40	286.00	+ 2.80	4.17
-do- Acc	548.60	587.00	+ 5.70	4.17
Japan Gth	259.20	277.10	+ 8.90	...
-do- Acc	273.60	292.50	+ 9.00	...
Mandarin Acc	85.36	91.29	+ 2.39	1.37
North American	165.20	176.70	+ 5.70	0.74
-do- Acc	207.60	222.00	+ 6.90	0.74
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 28 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	253.60	269.80†	+12.70	0.46
Deposit Inc	100.32	100.32†	+ 0.04	7.20
Deposit Acc	121.13	121.13†	+ 0.04	7.20
Euro Gth Acc	239.90	256.10†	+ 3.60	...
Europa	110.00	118.40†	+ 1.40	...
Intl Gth	154.60	164.90	+ 4.50	...
Japan Tracker	57.03	60.42	+ 1.58	...
UK Equity Inc	136.50	147.00	+ 0.40	5.34
-do- Acc	164.40	177.00	+ 0.50	5.34
UK Ind Tracker	136.10	145.80†	- 0.50	3.62
US Eq Ind Trkr	191.40	204.70	+ 7.20	1.29
-do- Acc	301.40	215.40	- 7.60	1.29
Asian Trader	128.40	139.80	+ 4.40	1.09
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	173.50	177.50	+ 5.20	2.51
European	57.37	58.70	+ 0.84	1.36
Olympiad	50.81	52.16†	+ 1.26	0.74
Global Bond	47.02	47.54	+ 0.39	7.07
Smaller Cos	57.01	59.48	+ 0.11	2.21
Equity Income	88.80	91.21	+ 0.28	5.14
UK Growth	80.66	83.15	+ 0.23	1.75
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	47.72	50.90	+ 1.39	0.75
Australian Acc	260.50	279.40	+ 5.40	...
Conscience	60.59	64.66	- 0.54	1.42
-do- Acc	66.07	69.44	- 0.57	1.42
European	159.30	169.90	- 0.10	1.27
-do- Acc	169.90	181.20	- 0.20	1.27
Extra Income	69.82	74.51	- 0.17	6.10
-do- Acc	104.80	111.80	+ 0.60	6.10
Far East Gth	132.80	141.90	- 0.10	0.06
Gilt Fxd Inc	96.58	99.89†	- 1.38	7.70
Gold	25.91	27.86	+ 0.06	...
-do- Acc	27.90	30.00	+ 0.06	...
Income	49.49	52.78	- 0.24	5.40
-do- Acc	148.40	158.20	- 0.70	5.40
International	27.50	29.50	+ 0.66	0.92
-do- Acc	39.51	42.39	+ 0.95	0.92
Jap Sm Cos Acc	238.70	254.60	+ 4.30	...
S pore Mly Acc	143.30	153.60	+ 1.30	...
Smllr Cos Acc	22.90	24.62	- 0.23	2.11
Special Sits	30.70	33.01	+ 0.12	1.85
-do- Acc	35.04	37.67	+ 0.14	1.85
Tokyo	63.27	67.48	+ 1.92	...
-do- Acc	63.91	68.17	+ 1.95	...
US Smllr Co Acc	108.60	116.10	+ 3.90	...
UK Equity	153.70	163.90†	+ 0.70	3.06
-do- Acc	284.90	303.80	+ 1.10	3.06
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	64.62	68.75	+ 0.63	3.03
N&P Gth Fxd Int	73.34	77.61	+ 0.09	6.95
N&P Higher Inc	173.10	183.70†	+ 1.00	5.30
N&P UK Income	94.53	101.11	+ 0.82	4.28
N&P Intl	81.29	87.41	+ 1.21	2.27
N&P Smaller Cos	68.78	72.92	+ 0.38	1.93
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	150.45	160.06	...	3.05
Global	244.84	260.47	...	1.12
Income	186.44	198.35†	...	4.48
Intl Bond	121.00	128.73	...	7.43
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 508, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577.				
Growth	132.80	139.80	+ 1.00	2.94
-do- Acc	230.00	242.00	+ 1.70	2.94
Income	206.60	219.70	+ 1.70	3.97
Intl Equity	199.50	212.10	+ 4.10	1.21
-do- Acc	218.30	232.20	+ 4.50	1.21
Equity	207.60	220.80	+ 1.40	2.73
-do- Acc	420.90	447.70	+ 2.90	2.73
UK Intl 25 Acc	64.89	69.02	+ 0.69	2.18
UK Income	56.33	59.92†	+ 0.41	3.47
UK Smllr Co Acc	64.35	68.45	+ 0.20	2.05
New Europe Acc	58.10	61.81	+ 0.49	1.65
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	78.23	83.67	+ 2.53	0.25
PEP Gth Inc	91.98	98.38	+ 2.32	1.29
Intl Gth	432.17	462.22	+11.30	1.42
Income	270.51	289.32	+ 1.84	4.39
W wide Recov	268.74	287.43	+ 0.66	1.03
American Gth	197.96	211.73	+ 6.45	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	165.08	176.56	+ 4.57	0.25
Far East Gth	166.85	178.45	+ 7.03	0.29
European Gth	103.86	111.09	+ 2.06	1.24
UK Growth	70.02	74.89	+ 0.62	3.24
High Income	73.96	79.11†	+ 0.57	5.32
Japanese Gth	152.50	162.57	+ 4.88	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	161.20	171.50	+ 1.20	0.97
High Income	103.10	109.60	+ 0.80	3.98
Conv Gilt	107.20	114.00	+ 0.90	6.60
Far East	270.10	287.30	+ 0.50	0.25
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	50.18	53.38	+ 1.43	0.55
Emerging Mkts	55.95	59.10	+ 1.64	0.24

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
General	46.09	49.03	+ 0.54	3.49
International	78.32	83.32	+ 1.85	1.37
Gilt Units	25.00	25.77†	- 0.32	8.26
Global PEP	33.74	35.89	+ 0.64	2.17
Income Gth	59.95	63.78†	+ 0.49	5.52
European	40.92	43.53	+ 0.69	1.22
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.19	26.80	+ 0.19	6.21
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pdecbank: 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst **	28.02	29.96	+ 0.50	1.89
Pru Csh Hvn Inc	101.74	101.74	+ 0.04	6.38
-do- Acc	103.52	103.52	+ 0.04	6.38
Pru Equity	635.81	680.01	+ 5.15	2.75
Pru Equity Inc	77.28	82.65	+ 0.08	4.45
Pru European	161.29	172.50	+ 2.12	1.96
Pru Global Gth	73.35	78.44†	+ 1.18	1.64
Pru High Inc	81.30	86.95†	+ 0.31	5.63
Pru Intl	143.99	154.00†	+ 3.13	1.41
Pru Intl Sm Co	61.56	65.83	+ 1.59	0.98
Pru Japanese	138.53	148.16	+ 4.98	...
Pru Nth Amer	142.45	152.35	+ 4.39	0.46
Pru Pacific Mkt	66.26	70.86†	+ 2.02	1.98
Pru Premr Inc	48.80	50.82†	+ 0.10	7.53
Pru Smllr Cos	76.47	81.78	+ 0.29	2.57
Pru Spec Sits	93.88	100.40†	- 0.16	2.65
Pru UK Grwth	106.02	113.39	+ 1.01	2.55
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2931/4				
Income	148.19	159.46	+ 0.75	3.88
Japan	209.23	224.13	+ 6.21	...
Major UK Cos	90.77	97.64†	+ 0.68	2.72
America Income	457.87	490.64	+10.72	0.67
-do- Acc	531.82	569.88	+12.45	0.67
Smllr UK Cos	239.48	261.12	+ 1.94	2.05
Smllr European	233.78	249.21	+ 2.23	1.69
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	70.72	75.23	+ 2.81	3.78
Capital Units	134.30	142.80	+ 2.40	1.63
Commodity	90.06	95.80	+ 3.33	1.39
European Gth	141.50	150.50	+ 2.70	1.54
Financial Sec	158.70	168.80	- 1.90	2.10
High Return	202.70	215.60†	+ 0.80	5.04
High Yield	197.30	209.80	+ 0.10	4.47
Income Units	101.70	108.10†	- 1.10	5.92
Investment	156.40	166.30	+ 1.50	1.78
Japan Gth	108.40	115.30	+ 4.00	...
Japan Smaller	147.10	156.40	+ 4.40	...
Masterfund	42.65	45.37	+ 0.90	1.28
Scotbits	235.00	249.90†	+ 3.30	2.21
Scotshares	239.00	254.20	- 0.80	3.08
Scotyields	217.40	231.20	+ 0.90	4.36
Select Intl	120.00	127.60	+ 3.90	0.72
Smaller Cos	202.40	215.30	+ 1.00	4.83
Special Situation	101.70	108.10	+ 0.30	0.88
UK Equity	212.50	226.00†	+ 0.60	2.86
US Growth	140.10	149.00	+ 3.80	0.30
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	242.15	258.29	+ 6.89	0.57
-do- Acc	261.60	279.03	+ 7.44	0.57
Australian	116.30	124.05†	+ 1.63	0.28
-do- Acc	136.26	145.36	+ 2.38	0.28
UK Enterprise	193.17	206.04†	- 2.74	3.75
-do- Acc	223.12	237.99	+ 3.17	3.75
European Gth	58.80	62.71†	+ 0.69	1.31
-do- Acc	60.86	64.91	+ 0.71	1.31
Euro Smllr Cos	52.45	55.94†	+ 0.53	0.75
-do- Acc	52.81	56.32	+ 0.53	0.75
Far Eastern Gth	59.69	63.66†	+ 1.37	...
-do- Acc	60.73	64.77	+ 1.48	...
Fixed Interest	52.31	55.15	+ 0.14	8.40
-do- Acc	62.67	66.07	+ 0.17	8.40
Gilt Income	102.77	108.31	+ 0.29	8.75
-do- Acc	138.95	146.44	+ 0.39	8.75
Income	289.28	308.56	+ 4.40	4.32
-do- Acc	837.89	893.74	-12.73	4.32
Japan Enterprise	50.17	53.51	+ 1.39	...
-do- Acc	50.17	53.51	+ 1.39	...
Japan Smllr Cos	314.97	335.96†	+ 8.14	...
-do- Acc	315.60	336.63	+ 8.16	...
Pacific Gth	76.71	81.82†	+ 0.95	0.84
-do- Acc	79.10	84.38	+ 1.55	0.84
Smaller Cos	173.64	185.21†	+ 2.43	1.66
-do- Acc	199.00	212.26	+ 2.79	1.66
Tokyo	80.92	86.31	+ 1.65	...
-do- Acc	81.74	87.18	+ 1.66	...
UK Equity	194.86	207.85†	+ 2.33	3.29
-do- Acc	360.84	384.89	+ 3.23	3.29
US Smllr Cos	127.00	135.46	+ 4.06	...
-do- Acc	127.00	135.46	+ 4.06	...
World Fd	65.83	70.21†	+ 0.29	1.87
-do- Acc	69.47	74.09	+ 0.94	1.87
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	40.73	43.38	...	5.23
Equity Strategy	59.52	63.39	...	2.69
European Opps	66.23	70.53	...	3.22
Maximum Inc	100.49	103.15	...	6.21
UK Smaller Cos	46.18	49.18	...	3.80
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	332.20	355.00	+ 3.60	3.08
American	249.20	264.70	+ 8.90	0.91
Pacific	271.50	290.40	+ 7.70	0.94
European	422.70	452.10	+ 6.40	1.36
Worldwide	74.50	79.68	+ 1.20	1.75
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	293.90	312.70	+ 2.00	3.16
UK Sm Cos Eqty	186.70	198.70	+ 0.70	3.23
European	311.30	331.20	+ 3.20	1.75
North American	250.80	266.90	+ 7.40	0.58
Income Plus Inc	61.88	65.83	+ 0.04	3.79
UK Spec Sits	64.29	68.40	+ 0.90	2.89
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	24.25	25.96	+ 0.20	3.27
Intl Growth Acc	25.90	27.82	+ 0.41	1.36
Global Inc Acc	29.51	31.58	+ 0.08	4.36
Market Ldrs Acc	24.58	26.31†	- 0.18	3.20
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	83.41	89.20	+ 2.83	...
Euro Spec Sits	41.01	43.56	...	...
-do- Acc	43.42	46.13	+ 0.55	...
Far East Opps	27.68	29.87	+ 0.79	...
-do- Acc	28.44	30.69	+ 0.81	...
General Growth	95.66	102.70†	+ 1.20	...
Global Tech	123.70	133.50	+ 4.40	...
Income Growth	95.78	102.90†	+ 0.80	4.02
Income Monthly	55.16	58.99	- 0.56	5.32
Japan Growth	62.31	66.25†	+ 2.20	...
Overseas Gth	69.66	74.15	+ 1.84	...
Smaller Cos	66.94	71.57	+ 0.18	1.97
Special Opps	90.59	96.33†	+ 0.35	2.18
Wld Spec Sits	42.19	45.40†	+ 1.01	...
-do- Acc	42.29	45.50†	+ 1.01	...
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	41.24	43.82	+ 0.10	1.92
Equity Gth Acc	56.71	60.26	- 0.30	1.21

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
UK Eq General	40.48	43.01	- 0.30	2.45
-do- Acc	53.12	56.44	- 0.30	2.43
European Acc	38.62	41.04	+ 0.30	1.47
Far East Acc	44.25	47.02	+ 0.50	0.43
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	29.80	31.52	...	6.66
N American Acc	43.80	46.54	+ 0.80	0.89
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	245.60	264.40	+ 4.20	1.73
UK Eq High Inc	33.44	35.53	- 0.30	4.00
-do- Acc	39.17	41.62	- 0.40	4.00
UK Lgr Cos Inc	277.80	301.50	- 1.40	3.91
UK Lgr Cos Acc	357.40	387.80	- 1.80	3.91
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	N283.32	N283.52	...	1.10
US Eq	$1.970	$2.092	...	0.90
Far East Eq	Y196.9	Y209.1	...	...
Japan Eq	Y194.5	Y206.6	...	...
FT Europe	109.20	116.00	...	1.90
FT North Am	$1.688	$1.793	...	0.90
FT Japan	Y195.9	Y207.4	...	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	104.70	111.20	...	1.30
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	351.00	372.60	+14.80	0.29
British	900.40	952.60	+ 6.30	4.72
European	351.00	373.80	+ 3.50	1.70
Japan	113.10	120.30	+ 3.60	...
New Pacific	267.30	284.70	+ 5.20	1.47
Mngd Cash	95.74	95.74	...	6.04
-Majority Stlg	99.91	100.91	+ 0.04	6.18
Inv Tst	172.70	183.10	- 2.70	3.10
Saints PPP	342.40	360.40	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin. 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	694.90	747.50†	+ 7.60	2.66
N America Acc	114.40	122.40†	+ 4.10	0.30
Far East Acc	107.00	114.40†	+ 3.30	0.26
W wide Bond	60.72	64.46	+ 1.66	5.28
European	77.59	82.98	+ 1.30	0.77
Equity Income	77.45	82.83	+ 0.99	4.27
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	33.99	36.36	+ 0.95	0.35
Managed Assets	113.29	121.17	+ 1.07	3.70
UK Income	34.96	37.40	+ 0.19	4.04
UK Growth	35.04	37.48	+ 0.24	2.77
Worldwide Gth	28.32	30.29	+ 0.56	0.52
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	199.36	213.08	+ 6.36	0.20
-do- Acc	218.96	232.94	+ 7.00	0.20
British Gth	82.86	88.15	+ 0.63	2.24
-do- Acc	96.70	102.87	+ 0.74	2.24
European	85.80	91.28	+ 0.39	0.87
-do- Acc	90.50	96.28	+ 0.40	0.87
Extra Inc	175.53	186.73	- 0.09	4.69
-do- Acc	275.56	293.15	- 0.15	4.69
General Unit	251.78	267.85†	+ 1.14	2.61
-do- Acc	496.71	528.41†	+ 2.26	2.61
Income	305.58	325.09	- 0.60	3.81
-do- Acc	622.43	662.16	- 1.21	3.81
International	464.81	494.48	+ 8.40	0.64
-do- Acc	607.58	646.36	+10.98	0.64
Pacific	292.43	311.10	+ 2.48	...
-do- Acc	306.27	325.82	+ 2.60	...
Premier Income	49.33	51.39†	+ 0.16	7.27
-do- Acc	101.32	105.54†	+ 0.35	7.27
Nat Resources	85.51	90.97	+ 1.33	...
-do- Acc	93.77	99.75	+ 1.45	...
Selected Opps	88.89	94.56	- 0.58	...
-do- Acc	111.00	118.09	- 0.72	...
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	120.30	128.40†	...	0.40
Australia	6.385	6.850†	+0.152	1.17
Equity	174.30	186.60†	+ 1.70	5.49
Euro Spec Sits	135.20	143.90	+ 1.70	0.60
Financial	36.53	39.10	+ 0.54	3.10
Global Opps Inc	84.19	89.97	+ 1.92	2.24
-do- Acc	87.27	93.25	+ 1.98	2.24
Gold Gen Inc	37.47	40.30	+ 1.07	1.09
-do- Acc	71.50	76.90	+ 2.05	1.09
Income	113.20	121.30	+ 0.80	5.10
Japan General	117.50	124.90	+ 4.10	...
Preference	21.19	22.80†	...	7.95
UK Capital	98.93	105.90†	+ 0.50	3.19
Worldwide Cap	188.80	201.40†	+ 3.00	3.18
World Income	78.48	83.73†	+ 1.36	3.63
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545				
Amer Sml Cos	69.74	74.38	+ 2.15	...
-do- Acc	71.94	76.73	+ 2.24	...
Cash	51.19	51.19	+ 0.02	6.25
-do- Acc	60.93	60.93	+ 0.03	6.25
European Opps	58.22	62.01	+ 1.78	0.48
-do- Acc	58.82	62.64	+ 1.78	0.48
Far East Opps	129.52	138.15	+ 3.29	0.70
-do- Acc	132.54	141.37	+ 3.36	0.70
Gold/Nat. Res	33.55	35.78	+ 1.36	...
-do- Acc	34.51	36.81	+ 1.31	...
Japan	60.84	64.76	+ 2.10	...
-do- Acc	60.84	64.76	+ 2.10	...
Little Dragons	60.08	64.08	+ 1.18	0.78
-do- Acc	61.63	65.73	+ 1.21	0.78
Oriental Income	37.77	40.28	+ 0.95	3.95
-do- Acc	47.69	50.86	+ 1.21	3.95
Tiger	192.69	205.53	+ 4.95	1.28
-do- Acc	201.55	214.98	+ 5.17	1.28
UK Small Cos	64.36	68.43	+ 0.72	2.37
-do- Acc	73.80	78.92	+ 0.83	2.37
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	213.40	227.60	+ 0.20	4.63
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australasn Gold	9.68	10.29	+ 0.19	0.50
Pacific Basin	28.04	29.82	+ 0.62	0.60
Canadian Gth	35.86	38.14	+ 1.08	0.10
Global Bond	$0.944	$0.984	-0.009	7.27
Penny Share	19.29	20.52	+ 0.07	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.07	52.07†	+ 0.01	6.23
Gilt Growth	64.51	67.15	+ 0.14	...
Gilt Income	51.92	54.03	+ 0.09	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	109.20	110.60	+ 0.20	4.47
US Govmnt Bd	$0.708	$0.717	-0.000	...
Challenger	92.14	96.35	+ 2.76	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 0705 388846				
Stockmarket Fd	65.14	69.29	+ 1.06	2.24

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

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Sweet teeth: Britain's confectionery sales exceeded £4 billion for the first time in 1992, according to Cadbury's annual review. Consumers spent an average of 98p per head per week. Chocolate sales were 5.9 per cent up, and accounted for £2.9 billion of the £4.18 billion total. John Taylor, Cadbury's marketing director (left, with Alan Palmer, marketing director of Trebor Bassett), said: "Despite the increasing effects of the recession, consumers still perceive chocolate as an affordable treat."

Three manufacturers, Cadbury, Mars and Nestlé Rowntree, account for three quarters of UK chocolate sales, and Cadbury claims its market share has grown.

It is estimated that more than £500 million was spent on chocolate at Christmas. The review indicates that the Scots are the keenest chocolate eaters.

False accounting charge dropped from Ward trial

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE trial of Thomas Ward, the American lawyer who played a key role in Guinness's £2.5 billion bid for Distillers in 1986, resumed yesterday after a week of legal argument when the number of counts against him was significantly reduced.

An Old Bailey jury was yesterday instructed to return a verdict of not guilty on one count of false accounting. The Crown chose not to proceed with a second count of procuring the execution of a valuable security. Mr Ward, 53, now faces a single count of theft. He denies stealing £5.2 million from Guinness.

Andrew Trollope QC, opening for the defence, said the allegation of theft had relied on the assumption that Mr Ward had submitted a false invoice to Guinness with the aim of obtaining an "excessive and inflated" fee. This, the jury heard, was now revealed to be "wholly fallacious and quite without foundation".

The court heard that the size of the fee was appropriate in the light of Mr Ward's "wholly exceptional" contribution to the bid for Distillers, which involved bid costs of more than £110 million. Lawyers in America commonly operate on the basis of success fees.

Earlier, the Crown had reopened its case to submit further evidence relating to the transfer of more than £3 million from Jersey to an account in Switzerland in the name of Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief.

Mr Saunders had telephoned the bank. Mr Trollope told the jury, and explained that the money "belonged to a friend" and would only remain in the account temporarily. Mr Ward, giving evidence on his own behalf, spoke of his dismay when the idea of a bid for Distillers was raised on a skiing holiday with Mr Saunders in Switzerland in December 1985. His reaction, the jury heard, was that the chance of the bid being successful was "less than 50-50", given the scale of the task. The estimated £80 million cost of the bid represented a year's profit for Guinness.

Mr Ward later introduced the notion of a merger agreement whereby Distillers would agree to pay Guinness's costs if the bid proved unsuccessful.

The issue of remuneration was raised after the bid was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in February 1986. Mr Ward told Mr Saunders that he would expect to be compensated for the disruption to his professional and family life. Mr Saunders had responded that he would be "paid and paid well".

The trial continues today.



Ward: denies theft

Milk Marque is challenged by Northern Foods

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

■ The Milk Marketing Board's monopoly on supply ends next year leaving Northern Foods free to deal directly with farmers and not the new milk broker that will emerge

NORTHERN Foods launched a challenge yesterday to Milk Marque, the proposed successor to the Milk Marketing Board, that is due to have its statutory monopoly of the milk market removed in October next year.

The company handles 17 per cent of English and Welsh milk, but is prepared to take 25 per cent. The enabling bill is due to have its third reading in the House of Lords today.

Northern Foods, via the newly established Northern Milk Partnership, intends to sign contracts directly with farmers, avoiding what Christopher Haskins, the Northern Foods chairman, described as the bureaucracy of the Milk Marque, which is intended to operate as a milk broker.

Mr Haskins has pulled off a coup by going into partnership with Richard Smith, the former special member of the Milk Marketing Board who opposed both the end of the milk marketing scheme and the stockmarket sell-off of Dairy Crest, the fresh foods business that is likely to fetch between £300 million and £350 million when it floats next year. Mr Smith, a Yorkshire farmer, is to be chairman of the Northern Milk Partnership. He hopes to recruit 5,500 dairy farmers in England and Wales to supply Northern Foods' requirement of 2 billion litres of milk a year, worth about £500 million.

Northern Milk Partnership said it would offer farmers a guaranteed market for all their milk and a higher price than the pool price available from Milk Marque. Richard Smith said: "I have done my utmost to oppose the end of the Milk Marketing Scheme and the sale of Dairy Crest. Now that is inevitable, dairy farmers must act in their own best interests to ensure their security and the best possible price for their milk. That means integration with processors." Continental milk producers were much more closely integrated with food manufacturers, he said.

Andrew Dare, chief executive of the Milk Marketing Board, said: "The heart of our proposal for the future is to establish a free market to replace the current statutory scheme. It enables other organisations to set up in competition with Milk Marque, so this move is not unexpected.

"From what I have heard so far there is nothing in the proposals that provide an advantage over Milk Marque. Indeed, quite the reverse."

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said the Northern Foods proposal was in line with the aims of increasing competition and improving services in the milk market.

Tempus, page 25

Trade Indemnity finds lack of confidence

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PROSPECTS of economic recovery remain gloomy, according to a new survey of business opinion published yesterday.

While the findings of the survey by Trade Indemnity, the trade credit group, appear to conflict with the increased business confidence reported in recent surveys by the Confederation of British Industry and others — which led directly to last week's cut in interest rates — many of the details of those surveys were similarly sceptical that the recession is showing any signs of ending.

According to the survey, businesses expected their "static" performance in the final three months of last year to be unchanged in the first quarter of the new year. Nearly half the 600 companies interviewed did not expect any improvement in activity in the first quarter, while 27 per cent were more optimistic, and 25 per cent less optimistic.

☐ Small businesses will today press Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, for Budget tax cuts. In a meeting with the Chancellor, the Forum of Private Business, a small business lobby group, will use a membership survey to support its argument for the tax changes. It says targeted, low-cost government aid could help small firms exceed the 1 million jobs they created in the 1980s.

CRT Group raises dividend

CRT Group, the consultancy, recruitment and training group, is raising its interim dividend 13 per cent to 0.65p (0.57p) despite first-half pre-tax profits slumping to £689,000 (£2.61 million) in the six months to end-October, dragged down by exceptional reorganisation and closure costs of £629,000.

Turnover rose to £21.2 million (£20 million). There was an extraordinary debit of £227,000. Earnings drop to 0.91p (3.47p) a share. CRT anticipates "a significant improvement" in the second half.

Abattoir sold

Borthwicks has sold its Ringmer Abattoir business and stock for £285,000 in cash to Anglo Dutch Meats (Charing) Ltd, with £135,000 payable immediately and the balance in instalments. The sale completes Borthwicks' restructuring as a producer of value-added food ingredients and manufacturer of food products.

Kernick bought

Philip Harris Holdings, the medical and scientific instruments company, has bought Kernick & Son, a laboratory equipment wholesaler, whose customers include universities, hospitals and industry in South Wales, for £513,750. Last year, Kernick made a £48,500 loss on £2.5 million turnover. Net assets at December 31 were £215,000.

German rail plan

The German government hopes to approve its plan to privatise the Deutsche Bundesbahn and the Reichsbahn, the loss-making national railways, on February 17, government sources said.

Iceland seeks £27m for Littlewoods deal

BY MARTIN WALLER

ICELAND Frozen Foods Holdings is taking over the bulk of Littlewoods' food retailing operations, funding an ambitious programme of franchises at Littlewoods branches with a £27.5 million share placing.

The privately-owned Littlewoods said the move would lead to unspecified job losses among its 10,500-strong workforce. About 10 per cent of the group's floor space is taken up by food. Talks with the unions over redundancies continue today.

Iceland, which in 1989 bought the rival Bejam frozen food operation, said the franchises would be opened in 48 out of Littlewoods' 55 stores that sell food, offering frozen, fresh and chilled products, by October. The stock market welcomed the news, with Iceland rising 21p to 668p, well ahead of the placing price.

Littlewoods is effectively contracting out much of its food retailing operations, offering Iceland a good opportunity for expansion on the high street. Under the terms of the agreement, which runs for an initial five years, there is no premium due to Littlewoods for entry to its stores and the rental is payable as an agreed percentage of the franchises' turnover.

Iceland says the deal will not dilute earnings per share in the present year. The cost of the franchise programme is an estimated £20 million. The balance of the placing proceeds will go towards accelerating Iceland's store opening programme, given the cheap prices for retail property now available, and the target for new stores in 1993 is raised by ten to 60.

Iceland is issuing 4.3 million new shares at 640p each, placed with institutional investors. The issue is accompanied by a forecast of sales for 1992 of £1.04 billion and profits of at least £55 million, up from £46.3 million. Earnings per share will be at least 37.5p fully diluted and a forecast final dividend of 6.9p would make a total 10.0p (8.5p).

Tempus, page 25

Top man at Haden steps down

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

MEL Hawley, chief executive of Haden MacLellan, the engineering and automated manufacturing systems group, has left after only ten months in the job. His departure follows the retirement of Philip Ling, the company's chairman and founder, in September.

Harold Cottam, a former Ernst & Young managing partner who took over as non-executive chairman, takes on more executive responsibilities, as does Clive Mayhead, managing director of the automated manufacturing business, and Richard Taylor, who heads automated services.

The company is also looking for a finance director.

The shares slipped 3½ to 39p yesterday. Last September, they collapsed to 23p after first-half profits slumped from £7.94 million to £2.43 million; in the intervening months they been inching their way back up.

Mr Hawley had a two-year notice period: his pay was more than £180,000 a year.

Belgium presses EC over Dan-Air

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

BELGIUM is pursuing its complaint before the European Commission that the British Airways takeover of Dan-Air is illegal and that it now has an unfair monopoly on the key Brussels-London route.

EC sources said the Belgian government was pushing ahead under pressure from Air France, whose president, Bernard Attali, is furious at what he sees as favouritism from Brussels, which has helped give BA growing power in the EC market. Air France has invested heavily in a 35 per cent stake in Sabena and claims the struggling Belgian carrier is being unfairly attacked on its own territory.

The EC said it had received a "sufficiently reasoned request" from Belgium, and it would decide whether to open a full enquiry into the Dan-Air takeover within a month. The statement itself is significant, because it hints at a change of policy on the Dan-Air takeover dossier since Karel van Miert, a Belgian socialist, took over as EC competition commissioner from Sir Leon Brittan. Sir Leon's staff were dismissive of the Belgian complaint, filed in December, but yesterday a spokesman for Guy Coeme, Belgian transport minister, insisted his government had a strong case.



Van Miert: policy hint

"I can only assume that we have given strong evidence and it is on the basis of this that they will now open an investigation," he said. There was no comment from the Van Miert camp but Belgian airline industry sources said it was no secret that the new competition commissioner is unlikely to forget his roots in Belgian politics. "Sabena has always been protected by Van Miert," said an airline specialist at *Trends-Tendences*, the Belgian business magazine.

BA, with 40 per cent of the London-Brussels route, has brushed aside M Attali's attacks on the Dan-Air purchase. France claims Gatwick, Dan-Air's base, has to be judged as a separate airport, in which case BA clearly has a monopoloy after the takeover. But Sir Leon said Gatwick was just one of three competing London airports, and in that context there was no monopoly.

"The treatment given to the two companies has been completely different," complained Mr Coeme's spokesman. "Sabena was investigated at every stage in its link with Air France, but British Airways was just waved through. We think this is inadequate."

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

BARCLAY AND SONS LIMITED (In Administrative Receivership & In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the above named company are required on or before 28 February 1993, the last date for proving, to prove their debts by sending to the Joint Liquidators particulars in writing of their claim against the company. The Joint Liquidators will proceed with the Interim Distribution within the period of 4 months from the last date for proving without regard to any claim not adjudicated to them before that date.
Date: 28 January 1993.
G J Wells, JOINT LIQUIDATOR.
Touche Ross & Co.,
P O Box 500 Abbey House
74 Mosley Street,
Manchester M60 2AT.

BELLMAN DATA LIMITED
Registered No: 1639785.
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 466(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that Peters Elliades of Panos Elliades, Frankin & Co., 6 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2LP, was appointed Administrative Receiver of the above-named Company on 20th January, 1993 by Bank of India under the powers contained in a Debenture dated 21st August, 1992 whereby a fixed and floating charge was created over the whole of the assets of the Company.
25th January, 1993
P. ELIADES,
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

GITSANK INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD. STARS 5 PLC. QUOTNET TECHNICAL SERVICES LTD. (All in Members' Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On 22 January 1993 the above companies were placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Pidsman of Arthur Andersen, P.O. Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to Mr. Pidsman c/o Arthur Andersen, P.O. Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT by 31 March 1993.
The Liquidator also gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A(3) that on 29 April 1993 he intends to make a final distribution to creditors who have substantiated claims by 31 March 1993 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors.
The companies are able to pay all of their known creditors in full.
DATED 29.1.93
M FISHMAN, LIQUIDATOR.

DEE AND SAND LIMITED (In Administrative Receivership)
Registered number: 2618389.
Nature of business: Commercial Property. Trade classification: 06. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver: 25 January 1993. Name of Person Appointing Administrative Receiver: The Greenwich Development Corporation. Joint Administrative Receivers: Brian Mills and Colin George Wiseman (office holder nos: 2306 & 6712) of Booth White, 142 - 148 Sidcup, Kent DA14 6NZ.

FAGINS BOOKSHOPS PLC (IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS GIVEN, pursuant to Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that General Meetings of Members and Creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Clark Gully, St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AD on 1 March 1993, at 11.00 am and 11.15 am respectively, for the purpose of receiving an account of the Joint Liquidators acts and dealings and of the conduct of the winding up to date.
26 January 1993.
C J Hughes, Joint Liquidator.

Gillen Contracts Limited
Registered number: 1662806.
Nature of business: Building Contractors. Trade classification: 25. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 21st January 1993. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Allied Irish Bank PLC. Administrative Receiver: Shirley Angela Jackson, (office holder no: 8583) of Begbie Norton & Partners, Cromwell House, Fulwood Place, Gray's Inn, London WC1V 6HZ.

INDEPENDENT VENDING CONSULTANTS LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester M4 1QD on Monday 8 February 1993 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(b) of the Act, Mr P Lomas of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED this 28th day of January 1993.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
MRS R GARDINER,
COMPANY SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 and IN THE MATTER OF SADLER INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of UNSECURED CREDITORS will be held at The Quay, 30 Channel Way, Ocean Village, Southampton, Hants SO1 1XF on Wednesday 17 February 1993 at 10.00 am for the purpose of receiving a report covering the background to and progress of the receivership together with other matters stipulated by Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986.
CREDITORS SHOULD NOTE THE FOLLOWING:
1) THE MEETING IS NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPOINTING A LIQUIDATOR TO THE COMPANY.
Please note that a person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if the provisions of Rule 3.11 (1) Insolvency Rules 1986 have been complied with, namely that:
a. he has given to the joint receiver not later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims is to be due to him from the Company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 (2)-(7) Insolvency Rules 1986 and
b. there has been lodged with the administrative receiver any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
We have enclosed a proxy for your consideration and return accordingly.
The motions to be put before the meeting are the appointment and constitution of the receivership creditors' committee pursuant to Section 49 Insolvency Act 1986.
Dated this 28th day of February 1993.
P S Padmore
Joint Administrative Receiver
Sadler International Limited

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION NO 00310 OF 1993
IN THE MATTER OF KYNOCH GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 18th day of January 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account and reduction of the ordinary share capital of the above named Company.
AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2 on Wednesday, 10th day of February 1993.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of the Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the Share Premium Account and reduction of the ordinary share capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 2nd day of February 1993.
SIDDONS HAVENS BUTLER
Bramfort House, 15 St Botolph Street London EC3A 7EE
Ref: JAK/ALR
Solicitors
for the above-named company

In the Matter of Gilmerve Limited
And in the Matter of the Insolvency Act and Rules 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 I, Lee Antony Manning of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that on 26 January 1993 I was appointed Liquidator of Gilmerve Limited by resolutions of members and creditors.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 26 February 1993 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Lee Antony Manning of 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Dated the 27 January 1993
Lee Antony Manning, Liquidator.

NOVALAL PLC
(In Administrative Receivership)
Registered number: 2448740.
Nature of business: Instrumentation industry. Trade classification: 01. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 13th January 1993. Name of Person Appointing the Administrative Receivers: Minster Limited. Joint Administrative Receivers: Peter Anthony Lawrence & Brian Mills (office holder nos: 6829 & 2306) of Booth White, 6 Raleigh House, Admirals Way, Waterside, London, E14 9XN.

LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 00361 OF 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF WAGON INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS p.l.c.
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 15th day of January 1993 a petition was presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company by £28,000,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard by Mr Registrar Buckley at The Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 10th day of February 1993.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the said Order should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Messrs Edge & Ellison
Rutland House 148 Edmund Street BIRMINGHAM B3 2JR
REF: 225/112/WAG1-131
TEL: 021-200-2001
Solicitors for the Company

No. 00487 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF HARVEYS HOLDINGS PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 20th day of January 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £26,853,164.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on the 24th day of February 1993.
ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of the Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned. Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated the 29th day of January 1993.
Travers Smith Braithwaite
10 Snow Hill,
London EC1A 2AL.
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

PARK GROUND RENTS LIMITED
Notice is being given that:
At an extraordinary general meeting of the above-named company held at 3.00 pm on 28 January 1993, a Special Resolution was duly passed authorising a payment of £591,536 out of the company's capital as defined in sections 170-172 of the Companies Act 1985, in respect of the purchase by the company of 176,785 ordinary sections 170-172 of the Companies Act 1985, in respect of the purchase by the company of 176,785 ordinary shares of £1 each from Channel Hotels & Properties (UK) Limited for the aggregate price of £2555,797 and 176,785 ordinary shares of £1 each from G S Hinman for the aggregate price of £235,739.
The amount of the permissable capital payment as defined in sections 170-172 of the Companies Act 1985 was £591,536.
The statutory declaration and auditors' report required by sections 173-174 of the Companies Act 1985 both dated 28 January 1993 are available at the company's registered office at 41-51 Blandford Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4HP.
Any creditor of the company may apply to the High Court under sections 176-177 of the Companies Act 1985 within the period of 5 weeks immediately following 28 January 1993 for an Order prohibiting the payment.
Dated: 2 February 1993

RE: CRYSTALITE WINDOWS LTD
and The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Trevlet Houses, 196-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JQ on Tuesday the 9th February 1993, at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of A Segal & Co., Trevlet House, 196-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JQ, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on Friday 5th February 1993.
Dated this 5th day of January 1993.
J De Cren, Director.

LEGAL NOTICES

P & P HEATING & PLUMBING LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 51 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP on the 9 February 1993 at 10.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Proxies to be used at the Meeting must be lodged at the offices of Halsall Wade Insolvency Services, 51 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP, the registered office of the company, not later than 12.00 noon on the 8 February 1993.
A list of names and addresses of the creditors of the company will be available for inspection by creditors at 51 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP, between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on 5 & 8 February 1993.
NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that, for the purpose of voting, secured creditors (unless they surrender their security) lodge at the said Registered Office of the company before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which it was assessed.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
M F COOPER, Chairman.

RE: I.D.F. Italian Discount Finance Limited
and The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Trevlet House, 196-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JQ on Friday the 5th February 1993, at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Segal Dardis & Rose, Trevlet House, 196-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JQ, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from Wednesday 3 February 1993.
Dated this 17th day of December 1992.
Francesco Mistretta, Director.

RUGELEY FINANCE LIMITED
Principal Trading Address: 29 Farm Street, London, W1X 7RD
Company Number: 1184785
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at 29 Farm Street, London W1X 7RD on 18 February 1993 at 10.15 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of names and addresses of the creditors of the company will be available for inspection free of charge at Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on 5 & 8 February 1993.
NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that, for the purpose of voting, secured creditors must (unless they surrender their security) lodge at the said Registered Office of the company before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which it was assessed.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
G.D. BUDD, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BELLING & COMPANY LTD
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at The Carlton Club, 69 Regents Street, London W1R 6EL on Friday 12 February 1993 at 10.30 am, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 pm on Wednesday 10 February 1993 and Thursday 11 February 1993.
Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge a full statement of account and an informal proof of debt and unless attending in person a proxy at Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, no later than 12 noon on Friday 5th February 1993. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
By Order of the Board
T J D Crowley, Director.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 005989 of 1992
Hickey Petroleum (Kent) Limited
(In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, EJ Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 005970 of 1992
Hickey Petroleum Limited
(In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 008971 of 1992
Hickey Petroleum (Leicestershire) Ltd (In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 008972 of 1992
Hickey Service Stations Limited
(In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
CROWLEY FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF on Monday 8th February 1993 at 10.15 am. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on Thursday 4th February 1993 and Friday 5th February 1993.
Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge a full statement of account and an informal proof of debt and unless attending in person a proxy at Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, no later than 12 noon on Friday 5th February 1993. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
Dated 28th January 1993.
By Order of the Board
T J D Crowley, Director.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 005989 of 1992
Hickey Petroleum (Kent) Limited
(In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, EJ Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 005970 of 1992
Hickey Petroleum Limited
(In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 008971 of 1992
Hickey Petroleum (Leicestershire) Ltd (In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
High Court of Justice
No 008972 of 1992
Hickey Service Stations Limited
(In Liquidation)
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 21 January 1993.
Dated 28 January 1993.
E J Wacey, Liquidator.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities:-
1. Proceeds of sale of Temperance Hall
2. Rainale Temperance Society, Northamptonshire
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for these charities. A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference number JF/208886A/1-CD (Lds0).

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Francis John Wethered Scholarship
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference DGY-155794-CD-LDN5. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities - 1. Regions Beyond Missionary Union
2. Harley House Charity
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for these charities. A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference number DGY-204349A/2-CD(Lds0).

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE ALL YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS
PLEASE CALL DEBRA GYNN
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STOCK MARKET

Shares soar on hope of new rate cut

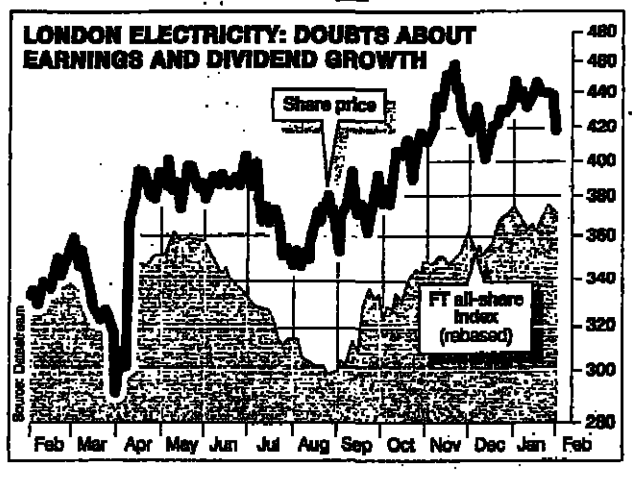
THE stock market is convinced that another cut in interest rates is imminent and yesterday chose to ignore the latest setback for the pound against its main rivals.

More than £7 billion was added to share values as the new two-week trading account started. The FT-SE 100 index was marked sharply higher in early trading and after coming off the boil at one stage, later advanced again to close just below its best of the day with a rise of 44.4 at 2,851.6. The all-time high of 2861.5 was struck on January 3 this year.

But turnover levels failed to hit last week's dizzy heights and by the close of business fewer than 800 million shares had changed hands. Brokers said institutional support had been concentrated on export-based companies and the dollar sensitive issues that are inclined to benefit from any weakness in the pound. Brokers think that a further softening of interest rates will be good long-term for the equity and bond markets. The pressure is now growing for investors to remove their money from deposit to look for better returns.

This latest boost to sentiment followed weekend reports that the prime minister has taken charge of running the economy and wants interest rates to drop to 4 per cent within the next couple of months. Strong denials from 10 Downing Street that such a move was underway were mostly ignored. It is acknowledged in the City that further cuts are required to kick-start the economy.

The pound's weakness came as good news for exporters, especially the big dollar earners. There were impressive gains for **BOC Group**, 11p to 746p, **Courtaulds**, 11p to 568p, **ICI**, 13p to £11.46, **Ladbroke**, 12p to 197p, **RTZ**, 17p to 663p and **Reuters**, 29p to £14.23. Even **BAT Industries** clawed back Friday's losses stemming from the out-of-court settlement relating to a passive smoking claim. The shares finished 17p better at 961p, while **Rothmans International 'B'** was 17p better at 627p.



The cheaper pound also provided a boost to oil shares which have been benefiting from a steadier oil price. Fears that prices would open lower following selling of British oil shares in New York on Friday proved wide of the mark. **BP** led the way with a rise of 9p to 254p. There were also gains for **Aviva Petroleum**, 5p to 42½p, **British Borneo**, 4p to 166p, **Burmah**, 18p to 698p, **Clyde Petroleum**, 6p to 46p, **Enterprise Oil**, 12p to 452p, **Goal Petroleum**, 7p to 62p, **Hardy Oil**, 14p to 132p, **Monument Oil & Gas**, 2¼p to 39¾p, **Pittencrief**, 8p to 331p, **Premier Consolidated**, 1¾p to 29p, **Ranger Oil**, 5p to 318p, **Shell**, 15p to 572p and **Sunrise Energy**, 3p to 200p.

The continued absence of a rights issue from **Allied-Lyons**, the food and drinks group, allayed market fears and enabled the price to rally 13p to 591p. The company has persistently said it will only ask shareholders for more money to help finance a major acquisition. It can reduce debt levels in the normal course of business.

But **Glaxo**, down 16p at 678p, remains overshadowed by the prospect of a major fund-raising excercise. Persistent talk in the market claims the group wants to raise £3.5 billion in order to finance the acquisition of Warner Lambert, the US pharmaceutical group.

Royal Bank of Scotland climbed 21p to 251p amid claims that the group will finally sell its Charterhouse merchant banking operation. Speculators have put a price-tag of up to £350 million on the business.

British Aerospace climbed 21p to 274p as brokers continued assessing the benefits likely to accrue from the Al Yamamah defence contract with Saudi Arabia. The benefits of Al Yamamah also spilled over into troubled defence contracter **Ferranti International**, up 1½p at 12¾p.

Northern Foods hardened 2p to 280p after deciding to challenge the successor to the Milk Marketing Board by establishing the Northern Milk Partnership.

Iceland Frozen Foods climbed 21p to 668p after announcing plans to raise £27.5 million via a placing of new shares at 640p. The proceeds will be used to finance its new joint project with the Littlewoods stores group, whereby it will sell its food products at 48 Littlewood stores. Iceland is also forecasting a rise in pre-tax profits for the year just ended from £46.3 million to £55 million. There was also plenty of institutional support for the other food retailers, with **Argyll** firming 5p to 397p, **Cullens**, 1p to 17½p, **J Sainsbury**, 5p to 580p, **Tesco**, 6p to 265p and **Thorntons**, 2p to 206p.

The regional electricity distributors spent a nervous session after NatWest Securities, the broker, advised clients to avoid the sector outside Scotland. County said that last week's report from the Trade and Industry Committee unexpectedly produced more surprises for the distributors than the generators.

It called for distribution review to be brought forward and for returns on capital to be reduced. County says this places a large question mark over dividend and earnings growth.

By contrast, the generators were not so badly hit, although the banning of orimulsion and the requirement of PowerGen for another expensive ecologically sound plant will hit them harder.

All the distributors suffered an early mark-down, but were later dragged higher by the rest of the market to reduce the falls, or even close with small gains on the day. There were still losses for **East Midland**, 2p to 399p, after 395p, **London**, 9p to 413p, **Manweb**, 6p to 470p, **Northern**, 5p to 454p, **Seeboard**, 4p to 446p, **Southern**, 3½p to 414p and **South West**, 1p to 444p. But there were gains for **Eastern**, 2p to 412p, **Midland**, 1p to 441p, **Norweb**, 1p to 458p, **South Wales**, 5p to 485p, while **Yorkshire** held steady at 469p.

Both the Scottish power generators suffered falls, with **Scottish Hydro**, down 5½p at 241½p and **Scottish Power**, 4½p cheaper at 219½p. But **National Power** was 3½p better at 297p and **PowerGen** 3p harder at 299p.

The bears were finding themselves squeezed in **Tay Homes**, the housebuilder, with the price 11p better at 181p before crucial interim figures later this month.

Last month the group gave warning that pre-tax profits for the full year would fall short of City expectations. Panmure Gordon, the company's own stockbroker, cast from £6.5 million to £4.3 million, but there are fears that the final figure could be as a low as £3 million. The shares have held up well in recent weeks despite the warning.

MICHAEL CLARK

London International Group slid 22p to 249p as analysts cut profit forecasts. The group *has warned them of weaker than expected trading in photoprocessing.* Andrew Porter, at Nikko, has cut 1993's forecast from £38 million to £34.5 million. Smith New Court cut its forecast by £6 million to £33 million.

HK signs contract to reclaim airport land

FROM REUTER IN HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong government *has signed a HK$2.6* billion (£225 million) contract with a consortium of four companies to reclaim land as part of the controversial project to build a new airport for the colony.

A government statement said work on the West Kowloon Reclamation — which includes the reclamation of 90 hectares of seabed — would begin this month for completion in 1996.

Leighton Contractors, a subsidiary of Australia's Leighton Holdings, China State Construction Engineering Corporation, Van Oord Acz of The Netherlands, and Lau Cheung Kee Marine Engineering won the contract.

China has been blocking the US$22.5 billion airport plan on one of Hong Kong's outlying islands and its associated railroad project, arguing that *it is too expensive and will* saddle Peking with debt after Hong Kong's 1997 transition to Chinese sovereignty.

The reclamation contract will provide about 330 hectares of land along the West Kowloon waterfront for transport links to the airport. Traffic will be carried from Hong Kong urban areas by tunnel and bridge to the airport at Chek Lap Kok island.

The project — one of the world's biggest infrastructure schemes now under construction — has become a political football that commentators say is linked to Peking's bitter opposition to Hong Kong's plans for political reform.

China has threatened to tear up contracts made by the current Hong Kong government without its approval after it resumes power in 1997.

WORLD MARKETS

Jobs fear slows Dow

New York — Shares stayed ahead in late morning trading, led by American Express, as well as taking their cue from rising overseas markets. But the Dow Jones industrial average and the broader indices, were affected by a forthcoming jobless report for January which may indicate continued weakness, analysts said.

The index was up 7.83 at 3,317.86, after an earlier high of 3,325.

☐ **Tokyo** — The Nikkei index finished up 109.86 points at 17,133.64, on late index-linked buying. An estimated 170 million shares changed hands in weak trade. "Investors are quiet, waiting for the government to take additional steps to improve economic fundamentals, not something which only helps share prices before the fiscal year-end on *March 31," said one Big Four* trader.

☐ **Hong Kong** — Shares were easier in subdued trading, with the market wary about governor Chris Patten's political reform proposals which will be discussed in the Legislative Council later this month, brokers said. The Hang Seng index fell 53.62 points to close at 5,697.78 after China's renewed attacks on the proposals pared more than 180 points from the index late last week.

☐ **Singapore** — Bullish investors bought shares steadily to push the Straits Times industrial index to a fresh high, ending at 1,644.44 up 24.28. *(Reuter).*

RECENT ISSUES

Foreign & Col PEP Inv Tst 107		+1
Intl Food Mchnry (51)	62	+1
Mauritius Fund (£10¼)	£10¼	...
OIS Intl Inspection (50)	64	+2
Prime People Warrants	1½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

ASDA n/p (53)	10¼	...
Burton n/p (60)	13½	...
Property Trust p/p (25)	15	+2
Stakis n/p (32)	11	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Abbey Ntl	380½p (+11½p)
Barclays	436p (+16p)
Gerrard Nat	409p (+14p)
HSBC	551p (+12p)
Lloyds	559p (+19p)
Reed Int	669p (+14p)
Burmah Castrol	698p (+18p)
Br Land	209p (+11p)
Shell	573p (+15p)
Legal & General	469p (+19p)
Liberty Life	963p (+22p)
Ryl Bank of Scot	251p (+21p)
Allied-Lyons	589p (+11p)
Siebe	460p (+16p)
Smiths Ind	375p (+10p)
TI	303p (+15p)
Takeda Chem	710p (+18p)
Wolseley	561p (+12p)
General Accident	592p (+16p)

FALL:

Wellcome	876p (-25p)

Closing Prices Page 26

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	3,200	Coats Vyla	2,300	Legal & Gn	1,900	Scot & New	1,100
Alld-Lyons	3,300	Cm Union	319	Lloyds Bk	4,900	Scot Power	7,800
Anglian W	425	Courtaulds	364	MB Cardn	835	Sears	2,400
Argyll Gp	1,500	De La Rue	86	Marks Spr	2,900	Svrn Trent	513
Arjo Wig	4,700	Eng China	220	NFC	1,100	Shell Trans	4,900
AB Foods	93	Enterpr Oil	1,500	NatWst Bk	5,600	Siebe	1,200
BAA	1,300	Fisons	6,600	Nat Power	3,400	SmKl Bch	940
BAT Inds	1,300	Forte	4,500	Nth Wst W	624	Smith Nph	1,800
BOC	306	GRE	4,100	Nthrn Fds	901	Smith (WH)	4,300
BP	14,000	GUS A	307	P & O	1,600	Sthrn Elec	2,300
BT	4,300	Gen Acc	1,200	Pearson	1,700	Std Chartd	325
BTR	3,000	Gen Elec	8,800	PowerGen	3,500	Sun Allnce	3,300
Bk of Scot	10,000	Glaxo	7,000	Prudential	4,900	TI Gp	2,300
Barclays	5,100	Granada	1,200	RTZ	2,200	TSB	3,600
Bass	1,100	Grand Met	3,800	Rank Org	1,600	Tate & Lyle	1,600
Blue Circle	1,700	Guinness	3,400	Reckitt Col	450	Tesco	4,500
Boots	1,700	HSBC	5,100	Redland	1,200	Thames W	1,000
Bowater	254	Hanson	9,200	Reed Intl	350	Thrn EMI	516
Brit Airwys	3,900	ICI	1,600	Rentokil	435	Tomkins	2,600
Brit Gas	4,300	Inchcape	1,400	Reuters	473	Unilever	1,300
Brit Steel	18,000	Kingfisher	420	Rothmans	270	Utd Bisc	2,200
Burmah C	1,000	Kwik Save	374	Ryl Ins	3,100	Vodafone	3,300
Cable Wire	2,500	LASMO	4,500	Ryl Bk Scot	6,200	Wellcome	1,400
Cadbury	1,300	Ladbroke	5,700	Sainsbury	717	Whitbd 'A'	1,400
Carlton C	795	Land Secs	2,600	Scot Hydro	938	Wlms Hld	1,300

BRITISH FUNDS

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
		SHORTS (under 5 years)				
104⅞	100⅞	Treas 12¾% 1993	103⅛	...	12.13	5.65
100¼	95⅞	Fund 6% 1993	100¼	+⅛	5.99	5.52
107⅛	103⅞	Treas 13¾% 1993	106⅞	+⅛	12.93	5.56
102¼	96¼	Treas 8¼% 1994	102¼ †	+⅛	8.26	5.45
110⅞	104⅞	Treas 14½% 1994	109⅞ †	+⅛	13.28	5.53
110⅞	103⅞	Exch 13½% 1994	109⅞	-¼	12.36	5.61
105⅞	98⅞	Treas 10% 1994	105⅛	-⅛	9.47	5.58
110⅞	103⅞	Exch 12½% 1994	110 †	-⅛	11.36	5.69
105⅞	96⅛	Treas 9% 1994	105⅞	-⅛	8.53	5.71
111⅞	102⅞	Treas 12% 1995	111⅞	+⅛	10.78	5.86
96⅞	88¼	Gas 3% 1990-95	96⅞	+⅛	3.11	4.60
109⅞	99⅞	Exch 10¼% 1995	109⅛	+⅛	9.35	5.98
116¼	106¼	Treas 12¾% 1995	116⅛	+⅛	10.93	6.14
120¼	109⅞	Treas 14% 1996	120⅞	+⅛	11.65	6.40
125¼	113⅞	Treas 15¼% 1996	125⅞	+¼	12.19	6.54
119⅞	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	119⅞	+⅛	11.09	6.54
111⅛	98⅞	Conv 10% 1996	111⅛	+⅛	9.01	6.63
122⅞	109⅞	Treas 13¼% 1997	121⅞	+⅛	10.86	6.82
113⅛	100⅞	Exch 10½% 1997	113⅞ †	-⅛	9.28	6.73
108⅞	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	107⅞xd	+⅛	8.12	6.74
131⅛	117⅞	Exch 15% 1997	131⅛	+⅛	11.40	7.00
111⅞	97⅞	Exch 9¾% 1998	111⅛	+⅛	8.72	6.90
		MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
102⅞	95⅞	Treas 7¼% 1998	102	+⅛	7.14	6.77
100⅛	86⅞	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100	+⅛	6.75	6.76
137⅞	123⅞	Treas 15½% 1998	137⅞	+⅛	11.31	7.36
121⅛	107⅞	Exch 12% 1998	121⅞	+⅛	9.89	7.40
111⅛	97⅞	Treas 9½% 1999	110⅞	+⅛	8.57	7.22
123⅞	109⅛	Exch 12¼% 1999	122⅞	+⅛	9.98	7.55
116⅛	101⅞	Treas 10½% 1999	115⅞	+⅛	9.09	7.36
115⅞	100⅞	Conv 10¼% 1999	114⅞	+⅛	8.92	7.41
109⅛	94⅞	Conv 9% 2000	108⅞xd	+⅛	8.27	7.38
128⅞	114⅞	Treas 13% 2000	128⅞	-⅛	10.14	7.91
113⅞	99⅞	Treas 10% 2001	112⅞xd	+⅛	8.85	7.82
128⅞	115⅞	Treas 14% 1998-01	128⅛	+⅛	10.91	7.42
111⅛	98⅛	Treas 9¾% 2002	111⅛ †	+⅛	8.75	8.04
25⅞	21⅞	Treas 8% 2003	25⅞	+⅛	7.98	7.96
113⅛	100⅞	Treas 10% 2003	112⅞ †	+⅛	8.88	8.20
120⅛	107⅞	Treas 11½% 2001-04	119⅞	+⅞	9.61	8.15
70⅞	59⅞	Fund 3½% 1999-04	70⅞	-⅛	4.98	7.38
109⅞	96⅞	Conv 9½% 2004	108⅞	+⅞	8.77	8.36
109⅞	96⅞	Conv 9½% 2005	108⅞	+⅛	8.78	8.39
128⅛	116⅞	Treas 12½% 2003-05	127⅞	+⅛	9.80	8.53
97⅞	85⅛	Treas 8% 2002-06	97⅛	+⅛	8.24	8.39
122⅛	110⅞	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121⅞	+⅛	9.66	8.47
100⅞	89⅞	Treas 8½% 2007	99⅞	-⅛	8.52	8.52
135⅞	123⅞	Treas 13½% 2004-08	134⅞	+⅞	10.03	8.59
		LONGS (over 15 years)				
104⅞	93⅞	Treas 9% 2008	103⅛	+⅛	8.69	8.56
95⅞	85⅞	Treas 8% 2009	94⅞	+⅛	8.47	8.62
103⅛	93⅞	Conv 9% 2011	102⅞	+⅛	8.78	8.71
103⅞	93⅞	Treas 9% 2012	102⅛ †	+⅛	8.78	8.72
72⅛	63⅛	Treas 5½% 2008-12	71⅛ †	+⅛	7.67	8.47
92⅞	81⅞	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	91⅞	+⅛	8.48	8.61
130⅞	118⅞	Exch 12% 2013-17	128⅛	+⅛	9.34	8.94
101⅛	91⅞	Treas 8¾% 2017	99⅞xd	-⅛	8.94	8.81
		UNDATED				
45⅞	39⅞	Consols 4%	45⅞ †	+⅛	8.86	...
40⅛	35⅞	War Ln 3½%	39⅛	+⅛	8.89	...
63⅞	59	Conv 3½%	61⅞	+⅛	5.66	...
29⅞	24⅞	Consols 2½%	29⅛	-⅛	8.40	...
29	24⅞	Treas 2½%	28⅞	+⅛	8.82	...
		INDEX-LINKED				
133⅛	122⅛	Treas IL 2% 1994	133⅞	+⅛	...	0.96
197⅛	176⅞	Treas IL 2% 1996	197⅞	+⅛	1.56	2.28
108⅞	100⅞	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107⅞	-⅛	2.38	2.94
163⅞	139⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2001	163⅞	-⅛	2.91	3.25
159⅞	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	159⅞	+⅛	3.07	3.36
109¼	101⅛	Treas IL 4⅛% 2004	108⅛	+⅛	3.22	3.50
163⅛	137⅞	Treas IL 2% 2006	163⅛	+⅛	3.31	3.54
147⅞	124⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2009	147⅛	+⅛	3.47	3.67
152⅞	129⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2011	152⅞ †	+⅛	3.53	3.71
128⅛	108⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2013	125⅛ †	+⅛	3.58	3.74
139⅞	112⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2016	133⅛	+⅛	3.62	3.77
128⅞	107⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2020	127⅛	-⅛	3.67	3.81
106⅞	88⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2024	105⅞	+⅛	3.69	3.82
107⅞	91⅞	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	106⅛	+⅛	3.70	3.83

THE yield curve steepened sharply as the bond market began discounting the next cut in bank base rates. Prices were chased sharply higher as institutions looked to increase their weighting in gilts. Most of yesterday's support was directed at the medium and short end.

The latest surge in values prompted the Bank of England to increase government funding with issues including £300 million of Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998, £200 million of Treasury 10 per cent 2001, £100 million of Treasury *index-linked 1996 and £150* million of Treasury index-linked 2024.

At the short end of the cash market, Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 jumped more than £½ to £111 27/32, while in longer dated issues, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was 13 ticks better at £102 19/32.

Business on the futures market was more subdued.

WALL STREET

	Feb 1 midday	Jan 29 close
AMP Inc	57¾	57¼
AMR Corp	63½	63¾
Abbott Labs	27¼	27¼
Aetna Life	51⅛	50¾
Ahmanson (HF)	19⅝	19⅞
Air Prod & Chem	44½	43⅞
Albertson's	49⅝	48⅞
Alcan Alumnm	18⅜	18⅜
Alco Standard	40⅝	40⅞
Allied Signal	58⅞	57⅝
Alum Co of Am	72⅞	74⅛
Amax	18	17¼
Amerada Hess	48⅝	48⅛
Amer Brands	36⅞	35⅞
Amer Cyanamid	53⅝	53⅝
Amer El Power	33⅞	33⅝
Amer Express	24⅜	23⅝
Amer Genl Corp	57⅞	56⅞
Amer Home Pr	62⅞	62¼
Amer Intl	119⅝	118⅝
Amer Stores	43⅛	43⅜
Amer T & T	53	52⅝
Ameritech	72⅝	72
Amoco	53	52⅞
Anheuser-Busch	58⅝	58⅝
Apple Computer	60⅞	59⅝
Archer Daniels	36	26⅝
Arkla	7⅝	7¼
Armco	7⅜	7⅜
Armstrng Wrld	32⅝	32¼
Asarco	26⅛	26⅝
Ashland Oil	27⅛	27
Atl Richfield	118	117
Auto Data Pro	52⅞	51⅛
Avery Dennison	27⅞	26⅞
Avon Products	58⅝	57
Baker Hughes	20⅝	20⅜
Baltim Gas & El	24⅝	24⅛
Banc One	50⅝	50⅞
BankAmerica	52⅞	52⅝
Bank of NY	57⅛	56⅝
Bankers Tr NY	67⅛	67
Barnett Banks	42⅞	42⅝
Bausch & Lomb	54	53⅞
Baxter Intl	30¼	30⅛
Bectn Dickinsn	78⅛	77⅝
Bell Atlantic	52⅞	51⅛
BellSouth	52⅞	51⅞
Black & Decker	17⅝	17⅝
Block (H&R)	38⅞	38⅛
Boeing	35⅛	35⅞
Boise Cascade	24⅛	24⅝
Borden Inc	26⅝	27
Brlstl Myrs Sq	59⅝	59⅝
Browning Ferris	27⅞	28⅛
Burlington Nthn	46⅛	46¼
CBS	189⅝	188⅞
CNA Financial	96⅝	95⅝
CPC Intl	46⅝	46⅞
CSX	75⅞	73⅞
Campbell Soup	41⅛	41
Can Pacific	12⅝	12⅝
Cpd Cities ABC	496⅛	493⅞
Cpd Holdings	77⅞	77⅞
Carolina Pwr	29	57⅛
Caterpillar	56⅞	56⅛
Central & SW	30⅞	30¼
Champion Intl	29⅝	29⅞
Chase Manhat	30⅛	29⅝
Chemical Bk	40⅝	40⅝
Chevron Corp	73	72⅝
Chrysler	38⅝	39⅝
Chubb Corp	89⅝	89⅞
Cigna Corp	62⅝	62
Citicorp	26	25⅞
Clorox	45¼	44⅛
Coastal Corp	24¼	24⅛
Coca Cola	42⅞	42⅝
Colgate-Palmolive	56⅝	56⅝
Columbia Gas	19⅛	19⅝
Commonw Ed	25⅝	25⅞
Compaq Comp	52	51⅛
Comp Ass Intl	25⅛	25⅞
Conagra	31⅛	31⅛
Cons Edison	33⅛	33⅞
Cons Nat Gas	45⅝	45⅞
Cons Rail	54⅛	54¼
Cooper Inds	49⅝	50⅛
Corning Inc	36⅝	36
Crown Cork	39⅛	39⅝
Dana Corp	47⅞	47
Dayton Hudson	78⅛	77⅛
Deere	46⅛	46⅛
Delta Air Lines	51⅞	51⅞
Deluxe Corp	43⅝	43⅝
Detroit Edison	34⅞	34⅛
Digital Equip	43⅛	42⅝
Dillard Dept St	48⅝	49
Disney (Walt)	45⅝	45⅞
Dominion Res	40⅝	40⅞
Donelley (RR)	28⅝	27⅛
Dover Corp	45⅝	45⅛
Dow Chemicals	53	53⅛
Dow Jones	29⅛	29⅞
Dresser	18⅞	18⅞
Duke Power	36⅛	36⅛
Dun & Brdstreet	57⅛	57⅛
Du Pont	46	45⅝
Eastman Kodak	49⅝	50
Eaton Corp	78⅛	79⅛

	Feb 1 midday	Jan 29 close
Emerson Elec	54⅛	54⅛
Engelhard Corp	37⅝	38⅛
Enron Corp	50⅝	49
Entergy Corp	34½	34⅛
Ethyl Corp	29⅛	28⅞
Exxon	61⅛	61⅛
FMC Corp	48⅝	48⅛
FPL Group	37⅛	37⅛
Federal Express	56⅛	56⅝
Fed Nat Mtge	81	79⅞
First Chicago	41⅛	41⅛
First Interstate	50⅝	50⅝
First Union Rlty	9⅞	9⅞
Fleet Finl Grp	32¼	32⅛
Fluor Corp	42⅞	42⅞
Ford Motor	47	46⅛
GTE Corp	34⅛	34⅞
Gannett	54⅛	53⅞
Gap Inc Del	34⅝	34⅝
Gen Cinema	36⅛	36¼
Gen Dynamics	114⅞	114⅛
Gen Electric	85⅝	86⅛
Gen Mills	67⅝	67½
Gen Motors	38⅞	37⅝
Gen Reinsurance	120⅞	119⅞
Gen Signal	64	64⅛
Genuine Parts	35⅝	35¼
Georgia Pac	61⅛	60⅝
Gillette	54⅛	53
Glaxo ADR	19⅞	20⅞
Goodrich (BF)	49⅝	49
Goodyear Tire	68⅝	68
Grace (W&R)	38¼	38⅞
Gt Atl Pac Tea	24	24⅛
Great Wstn Fin	18⅛	18⅝
Halliburton	29⅝	29
Heinz (HJ)	42⅝	42⅝
Hercules	68⅝	68⅞
Hershey Foods	48⅛	48⅞
Hewlett Packard	72⅝	72
Hilton Hotels	48⅝	48
Home Depot	66	65⅛
Homestake	10⅛	10⅝
Honeywell	32⅞	32⅝
Household Intl	63⅛	62⅞
Houston Inds	46⅛	46⅝
Humana	20⅝	19⅞
ITT Corp	72⅝	71⅛
Illinois Tool	67⅞	67⅞
INCO	22⅝	22⅞
Ingersoll Rand	33⅞	33¼
Inland Steel	22¼	23⅞
Intel Corp	109⅞	106⅛
IBM	52⅞	51⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	107	107
Intl Paper	63⅞	64⅛
James River Va	16⅝	17⅝
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	44	44
K Mart	23⅝	23⅞
Kellogg	61⅛	62⅞
Kerr-McGee	45⅝	44⅛
Kimberly-Clark	58⅝	57⅝
Knight-Ridder	63⅝	63
Lilly (Eli)	56⅛	56¼
Limited Inc	27⅝	27⅝
LIN Brdcstng	79⅞	78⅛
Lincoln Nat	72⅝	72⅝
Litton	47⅞	47⅞
Liz Claiborne	40⅝	39⅝
Lockheed Corp	55⅝	55⅝
Louisiana Pac	70⅞	71
MCI Commun	40⅞	40⅝
Marriott	24⅝	24⅛
Marsh & McLnn	90⅝	91⅛
Martin Marietta	68⅞	69⅝
Masco Corp	32⅞	32⅝
May Dept St	70⅞	70⅛
Maytag Corp	15¼	15⅞
McCaw Cellular	33⅛	32⅝
McDonalds	49⅝	48⅞
McDonnell D	56⅛	58⅝
McGraw Hill	61⅛	61⅛
Mead Corp	38⅝	38⅛
Medtronic	89	90
Mellon Bk	56⅛	55⅞
Melville Corp	51⅛	51¼
Merck Inc	39¼	40⅛
Merrill Lynch	66⅛	65⅝
Minnesota Mine	98⅛	98
Mobil Corp	63⅝	63⅝
Monsanto	53⅞	53⅛
Morgan (JP)	60	59⅞
Motorola Inc	52⅞	51
Natl Medical	10⅞	10⅝
Natl Semi	11⅛	11⅛
Natl Service Ind	26⅝	26⅛
Navistar Intl	2⅝	3
NBD Bancorp	33⅛	32⅞
NY Times A	29	29
Newmont Mng	37⅝	38⅛
Niag Mohawk	19⅞	19⅝
Nike B	83⅛	81⅛
NL Industries	5	4⅞
Nordstrom	39⅝	39⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	63⅛	63⅛
Nthn State Pwr	44⅛	44
Norwest Corp	44⅞	45
Nynex Corp	84	82⅝
Occidental Pet	18⅝	18⅝
Ohio Edison	23⅞	23⅛

	Feb 1 midday	Jan 29 close
Oracle Systems	31⅛	32¼
Oryx Energy Co	19⅞	19⅞
PNC Financial	30⅞	30⅛
PPG Industries	62⅝	63
Paccar Inc	58⅞	58⅞
Pacificorp	19⅛	19⅞
Pac Enterprises	19⅛	20
Pac Gas & Elect	33⅛	33⅛
Pac Telesis	44⅛	44
Pall Corp	20⅞	20⅞
Panhandle East	18⅝	18⅛
Paramnt Comm	45⅞	45⅝
Parker Hannifin	32⅞	32⅝
Penney (JC)	72⅝	71⅛
Pennzoil	52⅝	52⅝
Pepsico	42⅞	41⅛
Pfizer	66⅞	66
Phelps Dodge	50⅞	50¼
Philadel Elec	27⅝	27⅛
Philip Morris	75⅛	74⅛
Phillips Pet	27¼	27⅝
Pitney Bowes	41	40⅞
Polaroid	27⅞	28¼
Price Co	37⅝	37⅝
Primerica	53⅛	53⅛
Procter & Gmbl	49⅞	49⅞
Pub Serv E & G	32	31⅛
Quaker Oats	65⅛	64⅛
Ralston Purina	49⅝	49⅞
Raychem Corp	39⅞	38¼
Raytheon	53⅛	53
Reebok Intl	35	34¼
Reynolds Metals	52⅞	53¼
Roadway Srvcs	70⅞	70
Rockwell Intl	29	28¼
Rohm & Haas	54⅛	53⅛
Royal Dutch	81½	82
Rubbermaid	31⅛	31½
Safeco Corp	62⅞	62⅝
St Paul's Cos	77⅛	77
Salomon Inc	37	36⅛
Santa Fe S Pac	14⅝	14⅞
Sara Lee Corp	28⅝	28⅛
Scecorp	45	45⅞
Schering Plough	60⅝	60⅞
Schlumberger	58⅞	57⅛
Scott Paper	39	39
Seagram	25⅝	25⅞
Sears Roebuck	49⅞	49⅞
Shell Trans	50⅛	50⅞
Sherwin Wlms	31⅛	30⅞
Skyline Corp	22¼	22⅝
Snap-On-Tools	32⅛	32⅝
Southern Co	38⅞	38⅞
Sthwestern Bell	69¼	68¼
Sprint Corp	26⅛	26⅞
Stanley Works	40⅞	41
Sun Company	29⅞	29⅞
Suntrust	43⅛	43
Supervalu	34⅛	34⅛
Syntex Corp	21	21
Sysco Corp	25¼	25⅝
TRW Inc	53⅛	52⅞
Tandem Comp	13⅛	13⅛
Tandy Corp	26⅛	26⅛
Telecom Corp	2⅞	3
Teledyne	19⅝	19⅞
Temple Inland	48⅝	48⅛
Tenneco	40⅝	40¼
Texaco	60⅞	60⅛
Texas Inst	55	54⅛
Texas Utilities	43⅛	43⅝
Textron	44⅛	43⅞
Time Warner	33⅛	32⅛
Times-Mirror	32⅝	32⅛
Timken	29⅝	29⅝
Torchmark	60	60⅝
Toys R Us	38⅝	38⅛
Transamerica	49⅝	49⅞
Travelers Corp	28⅛	28⅞
Tribune	52⅝	52⅞
Tyco Labs	45⅞	45¼
UAL Corp	123⅛	123¼
UST Inc	31⅛	31⅛
USX Marathon	17¼	17⅝
Unilever NV	104⅛	106
Union Camp	44⅞	44½
Union Carbide	17⅞	17
Union Pacific	58⅛	58⅝
Unisys Corp	12⅝	12⅝
USAIR Group	14⅛	14⅝
USF&G Corp	13⅛	13⅞
US Life	39⅝	39
US West	39⅝	38⅛
United Tech	47	46⅛
Unocal Corp	25⅛	25⅞
Upjohn	30	29⅞
VF Corp	54⅛	54
Wal-Mart Stores	65⅞	65⅝
Warner-Lambert	65⅝	65⅞
Waste Mgmnt Inc	38⅞	38⅝
Wells Fargo	96⅞	96⅛
Westinghouse El	13⅞	13⅝
Weyerhaeuser	41⅝	41½
Whirlpool	46⅞	46⅝
Whitman	14⅛	14⅝
Winn Dixie	74⅛	74¼
Woolworth	29⅝	29⅝
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	31⅛	30⅛
Xerox	84⅞	85⅞

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3319.48 (+9.45)
S&P Composite .... 440.27 (+1.49)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 17133.64 (+109.86)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 5697.78 (-53.62)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 98.4 (+0.8)

Sydney: AO .... 1529.1 (+0.9)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 1585.16 (+13.31)

FT 30 share: .... 2207.5 (+30.2)

Brussels:
General .... 5888.11 (+59.87)

Paris: CAC .... 472.41 (-3.96)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 463.8 (+4.3)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1384.44 (+20.11)
FT 500 .... 1523.68 (+19.01)
FT Gold Mines .... 76.3 (+1.6)
FT Fixed Interest .... 109.94 (+0.08)
FT Govt Secs .... 95.21 (+0.45)
Bargains 39006
SEAQ Volume 793.4m
USM (Datastrm) .... 128.16 (+0.50)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 25	February 12	May 6	May 17

Call options on 1/2/93: Aran Energy, ASDA, Brent Walker 3rd Pf, Brit Aerospace, Babcock, BM Grp, Burlington, Caverdale, City Centre, Emess, Goldsmiths, Hanson Wts, Mowlem, Norex, Premier, Alex Proudfoot, Ransomes, Relyon, Tadpole, Trio Wts, Tullow. **Puts:** ADT, Relyon, Tullow. **Puts & Calls:** Emess, Premier.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 93	2843.0	2871.0	2843.0	2868.0	10719
Previous open interest: 53085	Jun 93	2863.0	2880.0	2858.0	2880.5	888
Three Month Sterling	Mar 93	94.35	94.50	94.33	94.42	35307
Previous open interest: 278062	Jun 93	94.68	94.78	94.64	94.76	21220
	Sep 93	94.69	94.80	94.65	94.77	6816
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 93	96.69	96.70	96.66	96.67	685
Previous open interest: 20392	Jun 93	96.49	96.49	96.44	96.46	382
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 93	92.08	92.12	92.04	92.07	28008
Previous open interest: 444779	Jun 93	92.88	92.93	92.85	92.90	19001
US Treasury Bond	Mar 93	107-08	107-10	106-26	106-31	21
Previous open interest: 810	Jun 93				105-22	0
Long Gilt	Mar 93	102-00	102-05	101-28	102-03	23374
Previous open interest: 63952	Jun 93	102-12	102-23	102-12	102-24	153
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 93	109.64	109.71	109.64	109.66	1199
	Jun 93	108.97	109.04	108.97	108.95	17
German Govmt Bond	Mar 93	93.15	93.21	93.05	93.11	38893
Previous open interest: 149912	Jun 93	93.18	93.23	93.10	93.13	419
Three month ECU	Mar 93	90.28	90.46	90.25	90.43	457
Previous open interest: 13435	Jun 93	91.38	91.49	91.38	91.48	105
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 93	94.70	94.79	94.65	94.70	5976
Previous open interest: 38690	Jun 93	95.05	95.05	94.95	95.00	936
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 93	95.70	95.70	95.15	95.28	8506
Previous open interest: 26948	Jun 93	95.35	95.40	95.20	95.20	4

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 77.4 (day's range 77.3-77.7).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 1	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6608-2.6766	2.6726-2.6760	¼-½ds	1¼-1½ds
Brussels	48.64-48.98	48.88-48.98	5-9ds	24-29ds
Copenhagen	9.1230-9.1880	9.1660-9.1880	5⅜-9¼ds	14½-19ds
Dublin	0.9725-0.9805	0.9729-0.9802	57-94ds	180-235ds
Frankfurt	2.3661-2.3801	2.3744-2.3776	¼-½ds	1¼-1¾ds
Lisbon	199.00-215.14	214.68-215.13	100-145ds	369-430ds
Madrid	168.53-169.79	168.72-169.57	92-104ds	310-328ds
Milan	2192.70-2217.70	2199.20-2205.10	8-11ds	31-34ds
Montreal	1.8389-1.8527	1.8392-1.8413	0.11-0.04pr	0.05-0.13ds
New York	1.4545-1.4605	1.4545-1.4555	0.41-0.39pr	1.03-1.01pr
Oslo	10.0600-10.1880	10.1170-10.1400	2-3⅛ds	8¼-10¼ds
Paris	8.0150-8.0540	8.0280-8.0420	3⅞-5¼ds	12¼-14¼ds
Stockholm	10.7380-10.8590	10.8360-10.8590	2⅞-4ds	10¾-12¼ds
Tokyo	181.52-182.22	181.52-181.80	½-⅜pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Vienna	16.62-16.74	16.69-16.74	1½-2½ds	7-8¾ds
Zurich	2.1821-2.2088	2.2050-2.2088	¼-⅛pr	½-¼pr

Source: Extel — Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4557-1.4583
Australia dollar	2.1508-2.1540
Bahrain dinar	0.543-0.555
Brazil cruzeiro*	23224.4-23225.9
Cyprus pound	0.706-0.716
Finland marka	8.092-8.208
Greece drachma	313.25-320.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.2582-11.2675
India rupee	42.13-43.09
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4425-0.4525
Malaysia ringgit	3.8148-3.8234
Mexico peso	4.48-4.58
New Zealand dollar	2.8372-2.8448
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.3995-5.5255
Singapore dollar	2.3950-2.3982
S Africa rand (fin)	6.81-6.93
S Africa rand (com)	4.4942-4.5003
U A E dirham	5.288-5.412

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4777-1.4788
Austria	11.42-11.44
Belgium (Com)	33.41-33.45
Canada	1.2630-1.2635
Denmark	6.2660-6.2760
France	5.5125-5.5175
Germany	1.6295-1.6305
Hong Kong	7.7350-7.7360
Ireland	1.4850-1.4950
Italy	1506.0-1511.0
Japan	124.71-124.76
Malaysia	2.6210-2.6250
Netherlands	1.8340-1.8350
Norway	6.91-6.92
Portugal	147.00-147.30
Singapore	1.6455-1.6465
Spain	115.75-116.25
Sweden	7.41-7.42
Switzerland	1.5060-1.5080

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 7½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 5½ Week fixed: 6⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅞; 3 mth 5⅞. Sell: 2 mth 5⅞; 3 mth: 5⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞
Interbank:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞
Overnight: open 7, close 5½.					
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	5⅞	5⅞
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞
Dollar CDs:	3.06-3.03	n/a	3.13-3.10	3.25-3.22	3.56-3.53
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 29,1993 Agreed rates Feb 24, 1993 to Mar 23, 1993 Scheme I: 8.32%. Schemes II & III: 8.20%. Reference rate Jan 1, 1993 to Jan 29, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 7.0%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	8⅞-8⅞	8⅞-8⅞	8⅞-8⅞	8⅛-7⅞	8⅛-7⅞
French Franc:	16⅛-16	16⅛-15⅞	15⅞-15⅛	14-13½	16-12
Swiss Franc:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅞-5⅛	5⅞-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-4⅞
Yen:	3⅞-3⅞	3⅞-3⅞	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	4⅛-3⅛

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $329.30-329.70 Close: $329.70-330.20 High: $329.70-330.20 Low: $328.00-328.50 Krugerrand: $329.00-331.00 (£225.75-227.00)

Sovereigns: Old $78.50-81.50 (£53.00-55.00) New $78.50-81.50 (£53.00-55.00)

Platinum: $361.60 (£247.60) Silver: $3.67 (£2.515) Palladium: $110.10 (£75.40)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyon	550	58	69	75	9	25	30
(*590)	600	26	39	47	30	50	55
ASDA	67	6	9	11	8	12	14
(*63½)	76	4	7	8	15	18	20
Bass	550	55	69	81	11	23	30
(*588½)	600	25	42	55	33	47	53
Boots	460	50	60	65	6	16	21
(*500)	500	25	35	42	21	33	39
Br Airways	260	35	40	46	6	15	19
(*288½)	280	22	30	35	13	25	28
BP	220	38	41	44	3	7	10½
(*255)	240	22	28	31	7½	13	17
	260	10	17½	20	18	23	26
Br Steel	70	12½	16	18	4½	7	9
(*77)	80	7	11	13½	8½	12	14½
C & W	700	36	55	66	27	45	53
(*704½)	750	16	32	45	59	75	82
CU	600	30	40	47	28	38	48
(*609½)	650	10	21	27	64	71	80
Courtauld	550	40	52	62	16	30	36
(*567½)	600	16	28	39	43	60	70
GKN	460	25	35	44	23	33	39
(*467½)	500	8	21	28	53	58	62
Grnd Met	420	38	51	57	11	20	27
(*442½)	460	17	30	37	30	39	47
ICI	1050	104	115	122	21	36	52
(*1146)	1100	63	80	95	42	58	77
	1150	35	55	70	70	87	107
Kingfshr	500	70	78	82	6	16	21
(*550½)	550	33	46	54	19	35	41
Ladbroke	180	34	40	46	7½	14	18
(*208½)	200	19	29	35	15	24	29
Land Sec	460	40	45	47	7	20	23
(*485½)	500	14	23	29	24	41	46
M & S	300	28	34	40	6	13	15
(*319)	330	10	18	24	19	27	31
Sainsbury	550	45	55	65	12	24	27
(*580)	600	16	29	39	35	47	53
Shell	550	30	41	47	14	20	27
(*573)	600	6	18	24	47	50	56
Smkl Bch	460	51	65	74	8	18	24
(*496)	500	23	41	52	23	34	41
Storehse	200	18	26	34	8	13	18
(*209½)	220	11	17	22	21	25	28
Trafalgar	90	12	15	18	5½	11	13
(*95)	100	7	11	14	11½	16	18
Unilever	1100	54	73	92	24	42	49
(*1126)	1150	27	48	67	56	69	75
Utd Bisc	360	20	28	35	17	24	29
(*364½)	390	7	16	23	38	43	47

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAA	750	37	58	67	7	20	32
(*777½)	800	10	31	42	31	44	57
BAT Ind	950	41	56	73	11	40	50
(*977½)	1000	14	32	50	35	69	78
BTR	550	17	27	37	8½	24	30
(*558)	600	2½	9	18	44	57	60
Br Aero	220	53	61	71	2	13	22
(*273)	240	35	50	60	7½	24	32
Br Telcm	390	28	37	42	2½	7	15
(*415)	420	7	17	25	13	19	28
Cadbury	460	15	24	34	11	25	31
(*462)	500	3½	10	18	39	53	57
Guinness	460	16	33	42	14	31	38
(*460)	500	4	15	24	42	57	62
GEC	280	14	23	28	4	8	15
(*289½)	300	4½	13	18	14	18	25
Hanson	240	19	22	26	2	6	9½
(*257½)	260	5½	11½	15½	8	15	19
LASMO	160	14	20	26	6½	16	19
(*165)	180	5	12	18	18	27	31
Lucas	140	12	20	25	5½	14	17
(*148)	160	4	13	17	17	26	29
P & O	500	58	68	74	4	22	29
(*555)	550	21	34	47	20	45	54
Pilkngtn	100	8	17	20	6	10	18
(*103½)	110	4	12	16	13	16	23
Prudential	300	20	25	30	4	12	17
(*315½)	330	4	11	16	18	29	34
RTZ	650	38	50	65	8	28	40
(*680)	700	11	27	41	35	58	67
Scot New	420	23	37	45	5	13	25
(*337½)	460	6	18	24	29	34	47
Tesco	260	11	18	25	8	17	21
(*265)	280	3½	9	14	24	32	34
Thames W	460	22	36	40	5	13	23
(*475½)	500	3½	15	20	28	34	47
Vodafone	360	22	36	44	6	16	24
(*378½)	390	7	20	29	23	32	40

FT-SE INDEX (*2853½)

	2750	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000
Calls						
Feb	111	74	38	17	8	1½
Mar	132	97	61	42	24	12
Apr	155	108	66	54	39	27
May	144	133	108	82	50	36
Jun	—	153	—	95	—	60
Puts						
Feb	6	15	34	63	146	196
Mar	21	35	55	85	154	199
Apr	40	59	78	100	164	203
May	67	74	95	120	175	215
Jun	—	76	—	127	—	221

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	360	23	33	40	11	18	24
(*382½)	390	10	17	26	29	34	39
Amstrad	20	5½	6	7	2	1½	2½
(*24½)	25	2½	4	4	3	4	5
Barclays	420	28	37	44	22	30	39
(*437)	460	10	21	28	50	55	64
Blue Circ	220	23	31	35	10	23	29
(*233)	240	14	19	29	22	32	41
Br Gas	260	37	39	40	2	6	8
(*292½)	280	19	23	28	5½	13	16
	300	7½	12½	18½	15	24	26
Dixons	220	16	26	31	10	19	26
(*223½)	240	8½	18	22	25	30	38
Eurotnl	390	38	55	68	20	32	38
(*410)	420	22	40	54	31	45	57
Forte	180	17	21	26	8	18	23
(*187)	200	7½	13	17	20	31	35
Glaxo	650	46	68	90	20	33	46
(*678)	700	23	46	64	49	61	71
	750	10	27	48	88	98	107
HSBC	500	62	67	80	11	24	35
(*551½)	550	28	41	55	33	50	60
Hillsdwn	140	13	17	21	14	17	20
(*145)	160	5½	9	14	23	30	33
Lonrho	70	10	13	16	5	8½	10
(*75½)	80	5½	8½	11	10	14	16
Reuter	1350	100	135	160	30	57	77
(*1423)	1400	65	107	135	55	80	103
R-Royce	120	17	20	24	6	11	13
(*133)	130	10	15	20	10	15	19
Sears	90	14	16	17	3	5	6½
(*103)	100	7½	10	14	5	9	10
Thrn Emi	800	52	74	83	13	26	42
(*833½)	850	25	83	56	36	50	72
TSB	160	16	20	27	5	11	14
(*172)	180	6½	11	15	18	21	25
Vaal Reefs	30	6½	6	6½	3	4	4½
(*34)	35	2½	4	4½	5½	6	8
Wellcome	900	43	69	92	36	58	72
(*877½)	950	20	47	70	65	85	102

Series		Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Fisons	200	29	37	46	12	22	27
(*218½)	220	19	28	37	22	33	38

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastrn Elc	400	19	33	-	7	16	-
(*411½)	430	4½	-	-	24	-	-

Series		Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	280	23	32	36	6	11	18
(*297½)	300	12	21	25	15	20	27
Scot Pwr	220	9	15	17	7½	10	17
(*219½)	240	3½	7	9½	22	23	29

February 1, 1993 Tot: 47265 Calls: 25647 Puts: 21618 FT-SE Calls: 7766 Puts: 8395
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

REPORT: Robusta coffee futures continued to claw back *some of the ground lost during the recent slump and finished* with gains of up to $12 a tonne. Both old crops wheat and barley moved aggresively firmer reflecting further increases in intervention prices brought about by the Irish punt devaluing by ten percent over the weekend. Wheat prices moved higher with the same lack of selling frustrating buying.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

Mar	716-715	May	809-807
May	727-726	Jul	822-820
Jul	739-738	Sep	836-833
Sep	752-750	Dec	853-840
Dec	772-770		
Mar	794-792		Volume: 3556

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	937-925	Sep	908-905
Mar	907-905	Nov	922-916
May	910-909	Jan	unq
Jul	897-896		Volume: 211

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Oct	191.0-89.0
Spot: n/a		Dec	196.0-92.0
Mar	186.0-84.0	Mar	197.0-93.0
May	192.0-91.0	May	198.0-97.0
Aug	193.0-91.0		Volume: 0

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	242.2-40.7
Spot: 259.0		Dec	242.7-40.2
Mar	252.0-51.0	Mar	243.2-39.7
May	254.2-53.6	May	246.2-40.7
Aug	257.7-56.7		Volume: 542

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 1

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	82.43	93.84	119.91
(+/-)	-1.56	+3.80	+2.02
Eng/Wales:	82.58	94.54	120.16
(+/-)	+1.76	+4.66	+1.92
(%)	+5.7	+0.5	-16.7
Scotland:	73.36	90.97	117.43
(+/-)	-8.63	+0.19	+2.01
(%)	-60.9	+14.9	-39.3

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (Pkg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Mar	106.0	106.0	Jul	102.5	102.5
Apr	106.5	106.5		Volume: 11	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	142.00
May	143.80
Jun	144.25
Sep	111.50
Nov	113.65
	Volume: 297

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	137.40
May	138.25
Sep	110.25
Nov	112.90
Jan	115.65
	Volume: 149

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Feb	161.50
Apr	157.50
Jun	147.50
Aug	148.50
Oct	unq
	Volume: 257

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	53.0	51.5
May	62.0	62.3
Apr	unq	88.5
		Volume: 69

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Mar 69.50-69.00

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): A lifeless market *awaited any kind of fundamental news and until* then, it drifted without direction.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.50	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Feb)	18.55	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Mar)	18.45	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	20.25	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.25	n/c

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	190 (+2)	192 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	171 (-1)	172 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Mar	172 (-2)	173 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	172 (-)	173 (-)
3.5 Fuel Oil	69 (n/c)	70 (n/c)
Naphtha	181 (n/c)	183 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Feb	169.00-69.25	May	169.75-70.00
Mar	170.00-70.25	Jun	170.00-70.50
Apr	170.00-70.25	Jul	172.00-72.25
			Vol: 14595

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	18.43-18.46	Jun	18.50-18.52
Apr	18.43-18.45	Jul	18.55 BID
May	18.46-18.48		Vol: 21975

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Feb	193.00-94.00	May	201.50-06.00
Mar	194.00-98.00	Jun	198.00-02.00
Apr	201.00-05.00		Vol: 17

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

Feb 93	High: 1275	Low: 1270	Close: 1275
Mar 93	1285	1280	1288
Apr 93	1290	1275	1293
Jul 93	1150	1144	1150

Vol: 113 lots. Open int'st: n/a Index 1277 -1

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1513.5-1514.0	1533.5-1534.0	949400
Lead (£/tonne)	287.00-287.50	296.50-297.00	54475
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1096.0-1096.5	1115.0-1115.5	585150
Tin ($/tonne)	5770.0-5775.0	5835.0-5840.0	13510
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1193.5-1194.0	1215.5-1216.0	486025
Nickel ($/tonne)	5798.0-5799.0	5860.0-5865.0	43944

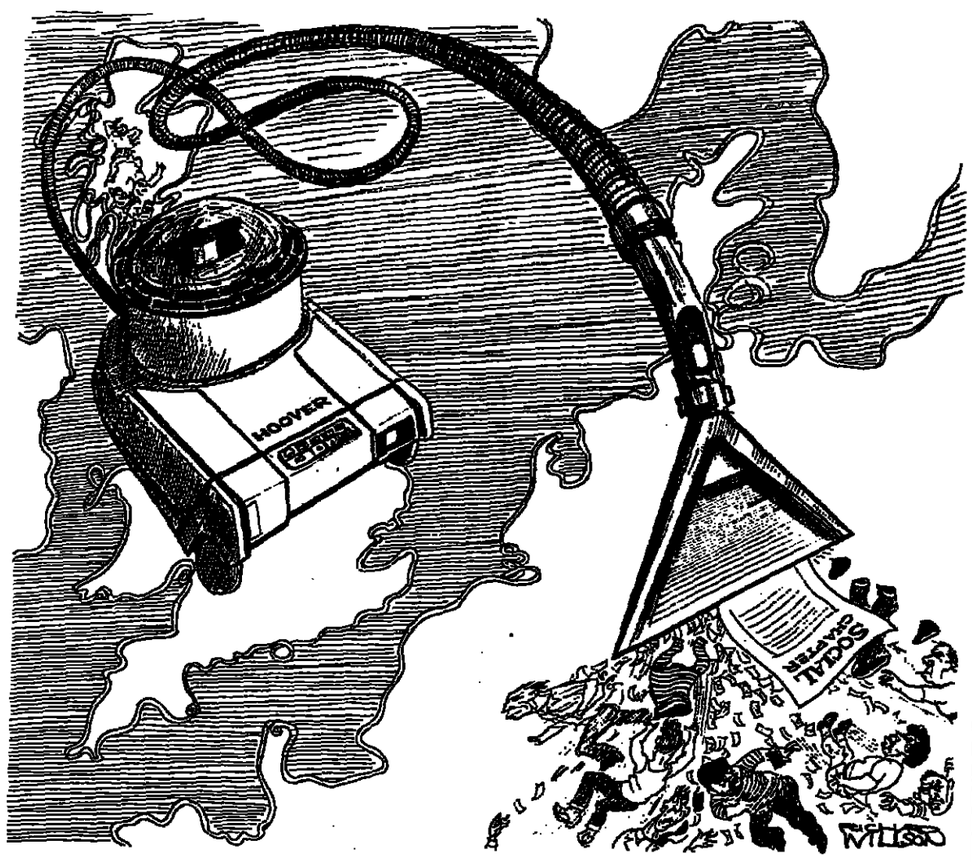
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Cross-Channel dust-up over jobs clouds market realities

EUROPEAN VIEW

Hoover's move of jobs from Dijon to Glasgow shows how economies in recession are levelling down rather than up, argues **Ross Tieman**



Britain stands in the dock, accused of "social dumping". The closure of Hoover's manufacturing plant outside Dijon, France, with the loss of 600 jobs, and the relocation of assembly to Scotland, has outraged French opinion. Pierre Bérégovoy, the French prime minister, claimed that EC aid was being abused. The leader of the Socialist group in France's National Assembly, Jean Auroux, called for a boycott of Hoover products. Trade unionists marched in the streets.

At stake, they said, were not just the jobs of French workers, important as those are, especially in the run-up to the March parliamentary elections. Here was an example of Britain using its weak social provisions to woo jobs from other, more responsible, Community partners.

This is not an isolated incident. Rockwell Graphic Systems, another American concern, is to concentrate its European activities at Preston, Lancashire, shedding 110 workers in Nantes in the process. Grundig, a subsidiary of Philips, the Dutch electronics group, might close one of its three European plants — in eastern France, in Vienna, and in Nuremberg. The company blames overcapacity, falling prices, and aggressive marketing by UK-based Japanese firms.

Britain's rejection of the social chapter in the Maastricht treaty, and its championing of Japanese manufacturers in Europe, make it an obvious scapegoat. Sterling's devaluation, accompanied by interest rate cuts, when the ERM and the Bundesbank's battle against inflation are imposing a painful straitjacket on the French economy, have increased alarm on the other side of the Channel.

The phrase social dumping is novel to most British ears, though it is everyday vocabulary in Euro-speak. But does it fit the Hoover case? After reviewing its manufacturing operations, the vacuum cleaner maker, part of America's Maytag group, concluded that it did not need three factories to serve Europe. The Dijon plant would have celebrated its 30th birthday next year. Instead, production is being concentrated at Cambuslang, near Glasgow, where the company will create 400 jobs.

Here, where almost one worker in five is unemployed, French unions say Hoover will pay wages 37 per cent lower than in Dijon. In addition, they protest, Hoover will benefit from restrictions on the right to strike, and reduced union representation, and workers will have to make up rest breaks with unpaid overtime. Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, professed himself "shocked" by Hoover's behaviour which, he said, had created competition "not merely for aid, but also over working conditions and over jobs in the two locations".

The EC social action programme, part of the single market, and the EC social protocol, part of the Maastricht treaty, were designed to level Europe's social "playing-field", to avoid exactly this kind of competition. The suggestion that Hoover will benefit from Community aid has been denied by Bruce Millan, the EC's commissioner for regional development.

There is another element to the story. Until now, Hoover plants have produced different vacuum cleaners, adapted to the tastes of national markets. At Cambuslang, they will produce a Euro-Hoover.

That is not surprising. Paolo Cecchini, in a 1988 study commissioned by the European Commission — and used ever since to justify the push to the single market — estimated that removal of barriers would lead to an increase of 4.5 per cent in the Community's gross domestic product.

This would be achieved, he forecast, because competitive pressures would force companies to cut costs through rationalisation and economies of scale.

Hoover's behaviour conforms to this pattern. Consumers should benefit from cheaper vacuum cleaners. Scotland will benefit from the transfer of employment from a high-cost area to a less prosperous part of the Community. And Europe's balance of payments should benefit from enhancement of the competitiveness of its white goods industry in comparison with non-Community rivals.

However, these benefits will take time to come to fruition; and neither Signor Cecchini nor anyone else imagined that completion of the single market would coincide with the deepest European economic crisis for a decade.

The principle of economic convergence was central to the vision of the single market. Community theorists had envisaged steady economic growth, with the least developed economies — Portugal, Greece, Spain — growing fastest, steadily closing the gap.

German reunification and two years of UK recession have upset both the smooth progression and the timing of the process. Divergence, not convergence, has become the rule. Hoover's relocation is both an acknowledgement of that, and a symptom of the process by which it will be reversed.

A few years ago, creation of jobs, in high-tech industries, helped to conceal the drift of more labour-intensive activities to the fringes of the Community, or further afield. Economic slowdown has made the process more evident.

Levelling up — of wages, employment conditions and general prosperity — has been replaced by levelling off, or even levelling down. The prospective chief executive of Mercedes-Benz has concluded that his company's cars are over-engineered. The sub-text is that his workers are over-paid and, possibly, over-qualified.

Devaluation by Britain and Italy has added to the pressure. In 1991, German manufacturing earnings averaged 20.76 marks (£7.03) an hour. French manufacturing workers averaged 46.53 francs (£4.65), against £5.62 an hour in Britain. Adjusted for sterling's decline, the table now reads: Germany, £8.65 an hour and France £5.61, on a par with Britain.

Creation of the single market has intensified competition, not just between firms, but also between nations and regions, which battle for jobs and prosperity. Germany and France are on the way down; Scotland is on the way up.

Unemployment is rising across the EC. Months, perhaps years, will pass before new jobs start to stem the employment losses associated with restructuring, and wages and employment conditions in Europe's poorer nations start to close the gap with the most successful economies.

Until that happens, charges of social dumping are likely to become more heated. Britain's European partners saw the opt-out on the social protocol as mere foot-dragging when they gave it their reluctant consent in December 1991.

Today, rightly or wrongly, they see it as altogether more threatening.

TEMPUS

All set for a rate cut

WHETHER by accident or design, the government has softened up the financial markets for a further succession of interest rate cuts. Yesterday's 44-point rise in the FT-SE 100 index and the pound's further fall against the mark, suggest the City has now completely discounted a one-point cut in the base rate and a further fall to 4 per cent if the economy still refuses to respond to shock treatment.

So far, sterling has survived the weekend stories reasonably intact. The pound may have reached its low against the mark yesterday but it is still trading close to the worst level it reached shortly after leaving the ERM last September, even though dealers are discounting base rates half the level they were then. Admittedly, the pound's position is far from stable, and it is likely to continue fluctuating wildly between informed rumour and official government denial about economic policy. At least it is spared the agonies of the exchange-rate mechanism that threaten economic misery to half of Europe.

Paradoxically, the pressure receded from the ERM yesterday as dealers interpreted the punt's devaluation as a sign that the Bundesbank will finally be forced to cut rates to protect the remnants of the mechanism. The dollar gained 2½ pfennigs against the mark but dealers have repeatedly bet on Bundesbank policy in the past six months and lost. There is little sign that the game has turned.

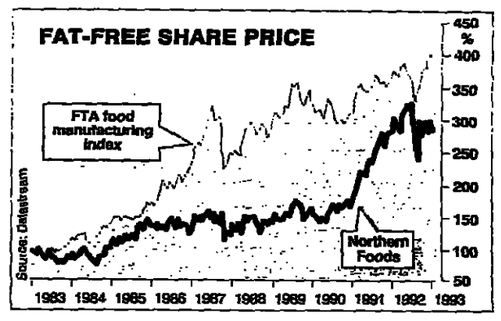
Pressure on the ERM is likely to return before too long and focus on the punt and the French franc. The punt is still substantially overvalued against the pound at £1.02, however strong the republic's commitment to the ERM may be. The currency has become a casualty in John Major's battle to stimulate Britain's economy. The franc remains the ultimate target for market speculators as the election approaches and the commitment of the right-wing to the ERM becomes more uncertain.

Northern Foods

NORTHERN Foods is the first dairy manufacturer to nail its colours to the mast and announce that it intends to source its milk directly from farmers rather than from the new Milk Marque, which will replace the Milk Marketing Board in 1994. This sounds a logical move, but shareholders will be disconcerted to hear Northern's public pledge to pay milk producers a higher price than the pool prices offered by Milk Marque. That is just one in a long list of commitments made to entice producers into its newly created Northern Milk Partnership. The group also promises to buy all its milk requirements from the partnership at a guaranteed price and to collect milk direct from farmers.

This appears to weaken the company's negotiating position severely. Northern, however, is making these pledges to win a vital edge over the Milk Marque. The deal guarantees security of supply and avoids dealing with a potential new monopoly. It will also give Northern Foods greater control over the quality of its product.

The most significant potential financial benefit of the new system lies in the company securing enough contracts — say, around 6,000 — to undermine Milk Marque's monopoly and force down the price it pays to producers, which would in turn allow Northern Foods to cut its prices.



HSBC

BEFORE the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank trumpets its success in turning around Marine Midland, it should consider the damage this great American disaster has done to its balance sheet.

In the past 13 years, HSBC has invested $1.5 billion in the New York state bank, more than a third of which was blown in bad lending. While last year's net profit of $109 million is brighter than the $190 million loss in 1991, Marine's performance is far from adequate. The bank is earning 9 per cent on equity, compared with a target of 15 per cent, even though its figures are boosted by tax credits.

Marine plans to expand in neighbouring states through modest purchases but the bank is restricted to one of the less promising corners of America. In the long term, Marine will be squeezed by the growing competition between the top retail banks. It must either become a major player through some substantial acquisitions, or Hongkong Bank should sell before it falls victim to the rapid consolidation of the American banking market.

Iceland

INVESTORS have stumped up more than £2 billion to fund supermarket expansion in the past two years based on the belief that smaller groups would lose business to the biggest superstore operators.

Nevertheless Iceland's placing of £27.5 million shares to fund its "Iceland at Littlewoods" expansion should be welcomed. By competitive pricing, the company has developed its own special appeal to consumers. The only problem confronting Iceland is finding cheap space when it has to compete with Kwik Save, Aldi and Netto for sites. The Littlewoods deal brings 48 outlets or 250,000 square foot. If Iceland achieves the profit per sq ft in the new outlets that it makes in existing stores, it will have expanded relatively safely with no earnings dilution.

Unilever

THE proud announcement by Unilever that it is reducing its head office staff to only 1,075 will cause much mirth in leaner conglomerates which have cut their central staff to a few dozen.

Unilever is making valiant efforts to slim its central staffing despite the limitations of its dual nationality. The company is still top heavy though, particularly when the 330 in the national managements of Britain and Holland are also included. The day when the group can move into a couple of floors above a grocers' shop is not here yet.

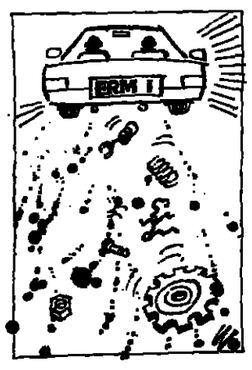
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Touting for tickets

MONTHS ago, the Stock Exchange Rugby Club reportedly sent the RFU a cheque for £85,000, but received only a handful of international match tickets. The club has only one team, which plays four times a year, and the RFU's new ticket allocation system favours clubs with lots of players. Keith Shepherd, the club's secretary, is trying his best to secure at least a few more tickets. However, disappointed fans can take heart. The Arbitrageur, a public house at the back entrance of the stock exchange, is holding a £5 raffle for tickets for the Ireland/England rugby match in Dublin on March 20. Simon Halliday, the ex-England wing and now a UK equities salesman at UBS-Phillips & Drew, will pick the lucky winner on March 12.

Poacher lies low

"GAMEKEEPER turned poacher" is how Adam Murza, a property analyst, describes himself this week, having quit Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, to join the board of Guardacre Group, an unquoted property investment company. Murza, 47, began monitoring property on April Fools Day, 1970, as editor of *Estates Times*. Seven years later, he moved into stockbroking as an analyst with Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers before joining Smith New Court in 1988. "Having spent over 20 years observing the property market, and having been bearish for the past four years, it now seems right to become involved in the direct property market," Murza says. Guardacre owns retail



property in Exeter and will attempt to exploit other opportunities in the retail market. Evidently a talented self-publicist, Murza has commented on the property market on television several times. "It's hard, but now I will have to maintain a lower profile," he says.

Cox's coup

WHEN America's Computer Sciences Corporation snapped up Butler Cox in 1991, little could it have known that the British computer consultancy's founder and former chairman would resurface almost two years later to poach back four key researchers. George Cox, now chairman and chief executive of P-E International, the United Kingdom's oldest consultancy firm, has re-hired the team responsible for the American company's CSE Index and formerly the Butler Cox Foundation. The four — Tony Brewer, David Flint, Roger Woolfe and Charles Chang — will now continue identifying trends and deciphering computer-speak for P-E's new "centre for management research", set up yesterday to accommodate the four. They will be joined soon by Peter Sole, a former head of research at Sturge, the Lloyd's of London agency management group.

Checking out

SPOTTED in Warsaw prowling round The Bristol, Forte's new "exclusive" hotel, soon after it opened its doors last month, was Jonathan Taylor, chief executive of Booker McConnell. Bedding down at another hostelry, Taylor had taken time out from his duties as chairman of the Foundation for the Development of Polish Agriculture to satisfy his curiosity at the recently restored hotel. "I'm in Warsaw two or three times a year," he volunteered over a cup of Earl Grey tea in The Bristol's art deco Vienna-style coffee shop. "Next time, I think I will be tempted to sample the Bristol." If he does, he will be one step behind Lady Thatcher and Yehudi Menhuin, who have already made their reservations.

TORQUIL Norman, the extrovert chairman of Bluebird Toys and enthusiastic weekend pilot, has hit on an ingenious way of luring visitors to his company's stand at the annual international toy fair at Earl's Court, London, which opened on Saturday and runs until tomorrow. All business cards entered for the prize draw have a chance of winning a flight with Norman in his de Havilland Tiger Moth. Launching Mighty Max and the Doom Zones, a toy that has been described as "horror in the palm of your hands", Norman jokes: "I hope the flight won't be viewed in the same way."

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

BUSINESS LETTERS

Puzzled by opportunities given to Old Lady's friends

From Mr George Curtis

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky commenting on the rate cut, (January 28) states: "The Bank's standard objection to any big move in interest rates is that the markets must be 'prepared' — i.e. that the Old Lady's friends in the discount houses and gilt-edged makers must be given a chance to position themselves for a profit in advance."

If the chairman of any quoted company in which I might be so guided or misguided as to hold shares, was to ring me up to state that their shares were liable to rise sharply for whatever reason, or vice versa as of midday today, in order to allow me to make a fast buck, or pass my potential loss on to some poor sucker downstream not possessed of such privileged information, and we were found out, we would be locked up for quite some time, for insider trading.

Now I am, as my late neighbour, when engaged in sensitive discussions with the Inland Revenue, used to say, "nothing only a farmer", with too much mud on my boots, and a-chewing on a straw, but as I sit on my bale a-thinking on it, I am wholly puzzled as to why the laddies in the discount houses aren't locked up too.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CURTIS,
Dalebrook House,
Dedham,
Colchester,
Essex.

Cheques Act causes problems for charities

From Mr J.F. London

Sir, The unforeseen efforts of the Cheques Act 1992 extend to charities who often appeal for funds under a popular title. They now face difficulties when paying into a bank account in their legal name, cheques made payable to the name of the appeal.

Indeed cheques sent in response to charitable appeals are made out in a wide variety of names.

Banks who now print cheques with the "Account payee only" crossing are placing their fellow bankers in the difficult position of being asked to do daily something which the law says they should not.

This Act should be repealed and more careful thought given to new measures to prevent misappropriated cheques being passed through a bank account.

Yours faithfully,
J.F. LONDON,
18 Knole Way,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

Staffing embassies

From Mr John Hill

Sir, Mr Humphris suggested in his letter (January 25) that our embassies be staffed by experienced managers from the private sectors. I think that he will find that this is the case in our more important commercial posts. I myself was recruited into a consulate-general in 1965 after some 20 years sales and management mainly in electronics and communications. Three of my colleagues in that time had come from the chemical industry, engineering and consumer products respectively.

It is perhaps worth noting that it was our belief, based on experience, that so-called contract lists, the junk-mail approach, were mainly a waste of time and money. They were certainly no substitute for the preparation of in-depth market reports and commercial status reports on behalf of individual British manufacturers which constituted the bulk of our day-to-day work.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HILL,
British Vice-Consul (retired),
Hometye House,
Grosvenor Road,
Seaford,
East Sussex.

Gilts market should be brought up to date

From Mr Clive Howard-Luck

Sir, It is now some 22 years since Britain's currency was decimalised, but the gilt market still deals in units of one thirty-second of a pound, the old 7½d. Unfortunately this does not translate into an exact equivalent in present day money.

Surely a marketing practice change from the 'tick' to 1p units is long overdue. It would be more comprehensible to the ordinary UK investor and certainly to the foreign investor.

Accounting would be eased and fine tuning of the market would be multiplied by a factor of just over three times. The British gilt market would at last be brought into the last quarter of the twentieth century and probably given a boost.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE HOWARD-LUCK,
55 Grange Road,
Hastings,
East Sussex.

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MENU DEGUSTAZIONE
Minimum Two Persons
Nest of Scallops with Quail Eggs and Basil Sauce
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Gratine of Green Noodles
●
Fillets of Dover Sole with Ginger, Lime and Dices of Lobster
●
Sorbet of Pink Peppers and Fresh Mint
●
Sliced Breast of Duck in a Prune Sauce.
●
Lamb Fillets served with Liver Pate and Black Truffle Sauce
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New cut hopes spur shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 1. Dealings end February 12. §Contango day February 15. Settlement day February 22. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Dolphin Pack	Paper,Print	
2	Vanx Group	Breweries	
3	Ranger	Oils, Gas	
4	Billam (J)	Industrial	
5	FR Group	Motors,Air	
6	De La Rue	Industrial	
7	Higgs & Hill	Building,Rds	
8	Eldridge P 'A'	Breweries	
9	Wintrust	Banks,Disc	
10	Stand Chart	Banks,Disc	
11	Kingfisher	Drapery,Strs	
12	Clifford Fd 'A'	Foods	
13	Salvesen (C)	Business Serv	
14	Hanson	Industrial	
15	Nth Brkn Hill	Mining	
16	Avon Rubber	Industrial	
17	Bellway	Building,Rds	
18	Hammerson	Property	
19	Rentokil	Business Serv	
20	Abbot Mead	Paper,Print	
21	Spring Ram	Industrial	
22	BAA	Transport	
23	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
24	Seacon	Transpon	
25	Gleeson (M.J)	Building,Rds	
26	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
27	Geneor	Mining	
28	Durban	Mining	
29	BTR	Industrial	
30	Tomkinsons	Textiles	
31	Linear	Industrial	
32	Unitech	Electrical	
33	Sainsbury J	Foods	
34	News Intl	Newspapr.Pub	
35	Bemerware	Drapery.Strs	
36	Sth Wales	Electricty	
37	Lester	Textiles	
38	Gr Portland	Property	
39	Alexon	Drapery.Strs	
40	BET Ord	Business Serv	

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Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

Two winners equally share the Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000. They are Mr R Russel of Southampton and Mr D Lutchford of London W1.

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
78	19	McCarthy & S	25	...	0.5	6.1	...
433	181	Meyer Int	308	+ 6	16.5	7.1	31.7
14	4	Miletta Grp	4	...	...	...	...
171	52	Mowlem (J)	71	+ 5	10.5	...	...
78	18	NSM	78	+ 2	...	...	...
165	90	Newman Tks	113	+ 6	...	9.4	∞
327	146	Persimmon	231	+ 6	8.6	5.0	19.0
36	19	Phoenix Timber	25	...	...	...	...
1625	1150	Pochin	1475	...	29.0	2.7	8.9
155	66	Prowting	85	+ 1	3.4	5.3	...
23	9	Quilligotti	5	...	...	...	...
659	383	RMC Grp	593	+18	20.0	4.5	22.1
137	67	Raine Ind	108	...	6.0	7.4	18.1
58	23	Ransom	30	...	...	...	...
565	300	Redland	464	+11	25.0	7.2	28.9
101	61	Renkel	72	...	4.3	8.0	9.6
248	152	Rugby Group	219	+11	6.4	3.9	16.5
48	25	Syrlid-Pipe	33	...	...	...	5.9
98	50	Sharpe & Fisher	74	...	4.0	7.2	...
130	70	Sheffield Ind	105	...	5.4	5.3	34.9
135	53	Sheriff Hldgs	85	...	...	3.1	12.7
85	53	Siborne	68	...	...	10.2	10.5
272	188	Smart (J)	222	...	8.5	5.1	10.1
15	5	Stanrain	5	...	0.3	8.0	6.0
161	51	Tarmac	114	+ 4	5.5	6.4	47.1
226	129	Tay Homes	181	+11	5.8	4.3	10.0
145	34	Taylor Woodrw	75	+ ½	9.5	...	10.6
668	294	Tilbury Douglas	493	+ 4	33.0	8.9	16.3
48	18	Torex Furn	22	...	...	2.4	...
228	105	Travis Perkins	178	+ 3	8.0	6.0	25.2
58	20	Try Group	31	...	6.0	...	4.2
38	28	Tudor	28	...	...	...	...
809	45	Tysonplant	60	...	3.6	8.0	11.0
55	15	Ward Hldgs	25	...	0.5	...	...
43	23	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
475	265	Wms Blake	466	- 5	9.3	2.7	24.1
19	9	Wescale	9	...	...	...	...
129	45	Westinsy	108	+ 2	...	6.0	...
18	5	Wm Scaffolds	5	...	...	...	...
22	12	Wiggins	15	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	394	+ 1	8.7	2.9	20.2
221	96	Wilson EC	157	+ 2	3.9	3.3	24.9
199	85	Wimpey G	133	+ 4	...	5.3	51.1
81	26	YRM	27	- 2	4.0	19.8	3.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
533	343	ADT	493	+18	...	...	∞
248	193	Adam & Harvey	218	...	11.0	6.7	3.4
127	53	Air London	72	...	...	6.5	8.9
63	34	African Lakes	37	...	2.0	7.2	7.6
152	81	Auto Sec	135	- 3	4.9	4.8	11.0
228	80	BET Ord	106	+ 5	...	6.3	15.2
100	41	BNB Res	65	+ 1	4.9	10.1	7.6
318	206	BPP	318	...	8.9	2.9	18.0
288	178	Barbour Index	273	...	7.2	3.6	20.1
30½	13	Boustead	16	...	0.7	5.2	12.7
210	111	Brit Data Mgt	210	...	...	2.5	17.5
14	9	Broadcastlite	12	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	58	...	4.0	...	18.5
142	72	CKT Gp	98	-12	2.4	3.7	18.0
262	162	Capita Group	424	...	5.0	1.8	27.5
36	19	Chalex Plc	34½	...	0.5	1.9	13.1
270	25½	Chiltern Capital	44	...	...	...	...
39	22	Christie	28	...	...	...	...
259	183	Chubb Sec	254	+ 2	...	1.5	28.1
63	18	Comasec	25	...	...	...	...
31	9½	Corp Services	9½	...	...	...	...
123	48	Dart	69	+ 8	3.5	6.4	7.8
216	145	Davis Service	202	+ 4	7.9	5.3	15.3
78	45	DW Place	70	+ 1	...	5.7	7.4
57	8	Gardiner	14	...	1.3	12.4	4.3
68	21	Gardner (DC)	29	...	...	...	...
246	163	Hays	241	+ 1	4.6	2.5	23.7
354	167½	Hogg Robinsn	215	+ 1	6.3	3.9	16.1
143½	43	Holmes Protectn	65	...	...	...	...
147	98	Hunch Wrapup	144	+ 4	...	...	15.6
1107	687½	ISS B DKr	1107	...	...	1.0	15.1
576	375	Indicapge	575	+ 7	12.5	2.9	26.4
263	86½	Jomson Clean	263	...	25.7	4.5	15.9
18½	2½	Lep	11½	+ 2½	...	...	...
244	168	Mitie Gp	238	...	2.7	1.6	19.5
972	662	Manpower	904	...	...	...	18.5
44	32½	Michael Page	42½	- ½	1.8	5.6	11.8
250	88	Pennsa	250	...	...	1.1	69.3
5½	2	Prime People	2½	...	...	...	...
308	148	Proudfoot Alex	216	+ 8	19.5	22.4	2.5
453	335	RCO	422	...	12.8	4.5	14.7
183	117	REA	118	...	4.0	4.5	...
81	45	Reed Executive	66	- 1	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Secs	143	...	...	4.2	14.4
13	4	Renaissance	4	...	...	...	...
229½	134	Resinkil	225	+ 4	1.6	1.0	33.1
241	180	Rolle & Nolan	241	+ 1	6.2	3.4	16.2
373	234	Salvesen (C)	373	+ 4	7.0	2.5	20.6
43	25	Scott Pickford	29	...	...	3.7	8.0
20p	9p	Securiguard	20	+ 2	4.4	6.4	∞
12	1½	Select Appts	5	...	...	...	...
768	555	Serco Gp	760	+ 5	11.9	2.1	26.4
283	132	Sherwd Compn	255	...	...	3.1	6.9
157	85	Stanchley	133	- 2	3.0	3.3	14.9
360	280	Warner Howard	341	...	5.9	2.3	19.3
91	41½	Welpac	45	...	0.6	1.8	...
20½	7½	Willis Gp	20½	+ 1	0.1	0.7	2n.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
24p	16p	Allied Colloids	241	- 1	3.9	2.2	19.1
699	413	Amersham	691	+ 5	12.5	2.4	25.6
31½	5½	Angle Utd	5½	...	0.8	...	...
9025	7362	BASF DM	9000	+137½	...	8.2	...
260	201	BTP	253	+ 2	6.8	2.7	18.1
611½	450	Bayer DM50	611½	+16½	...	4.7	...
248	126	Blagden	146	...	9.5	8.7	10.5
158	115	Brent Chems	150	+ 2	7.3	6.5	70.9
530	418	Br Bio-Tech	525	+ 7	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Gp	25½	+ ½	2.5	14.7	5.9
179	112	Canning (W)	138	...	7.2	7.0	11.1
616	371	Courtaulds	568	+11	13.0	3.1	15.4
247	142	Croda	243	+ 1	7.5	4.1	18.5
211	152	Ellis & Everard	191	+ ½	7.0	4.9	17.4
16½	7	Euro Colour	16	...	0.6	5.4	...
135	43	Evode	135	+ 5	3.5	3.5	∞
280	171	Halstead (J)	280	+ 2	...	2.9	15.0
227	158	Hickson	211	+ 3	7.8	4.9	13.4
1105	753½	Hoechst	1105	...	...	7.1	...
1410	975	ICI	1146	+13	55.0	6.4	27.6
660	454	Laporte	652	+12	18.9	3.9	17.5
328	138	Leigh	209	...	7.8	5.0	17.1
290	11	MTM	13½	...	1.8	...	2.7
1562½	1100	Norsk Hydro	1562½	-17½	...	2.1	...
400	360	Peacock Zoch	395	+ 4	11.4	3.9	17.0
395	355	-do- 'A'	371	...	11.4	4.1	16.0
301	231	Plysu	282	...	6.0	2.7	19.7
206	130	Porvair	206	+13	...	2.1	21.4
12	4½	Sutcliffe Speak	11½	...	...	...	...
475	329	Wardle Storeys	457	- 1	16.0	4.7	18.4
430	270	Wiggins Teape	430	+ 2	16.3	5.1	18.9
397	250	Yorks Chem	395	+ 4	...	2.4	20.6
273	214	Yule Catto	272	+ 1	5.4	2.6	16.5

DRAPERY, STORES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
382	63	Alexon	74	+ 9	...	5.4	4.0
109	23	Amber Day	47	- 2	3.1	8.8	12.9
306	160	Argos Plc	287	+ 1	6.4	2.2	20.2
99	57	Ashley (Laura)	82	...	0.1	0.2	...
305	180	Aspreys	286	- 5	...	2.2	26.2
340	180	Austin Reed	198	- 2	6.0	...	57.6
159	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	150	...	5.7	5.1	14.3
144	74	Bentalls	108	...	3.8	4.8	48.9
346	86	Bentorware	247	+ 9	...	0.7	34.0
114	22	Blacks Leis	27	...	3.3	...	5.6
371	133	Body Shop	145	+ 4	1.6	1.5	16.7
13½	3	Brown & Jackson	12½	...	...	...	...
345	260	Brown (N)	345	+ 3	6.0	2.3	21.4
80½	29	Burton	72½	...	...	3.7	...
320	136	Cantors	138	...	...	2.6	18.3
358	245	Church	305	...	12.5	5.5	25.1
131	58	Clinton Cards	105	...	3.7	4.8	...
231	151	Coats Viyella	226	+ 7	7.0	4.1	25.0
163	71	Colourdyne	88	+ ½	...	...	14.9
397	300	Courts Furnish	396	+ 1	5.0	1.7	19.9
252	109	Crown Eyes	135	...	...	5.9	6.3
111	65	Dairy Farm Intl	93	+ 1	...	...	16.4
55	27½	Dewhirst (JJ)	55	...	0.7	1.7	18.2
286	179	Dixons Grp	223	+ 2	6.0	3.6	26.2
495	355	Dunhill	377	...	7.7	2.7	13.1
33	13	ERA Gp	21	...	...	...	9.7
780	480	Elys (Wimbldn)	480	...	16.0	4.4	10.7
97	39½	Etsen Furn	94	...	...	3.9	18.8
258	190	Etam	243	...	3.6	4.1	19.0
519	340	Fine Art Dev	508	...	11.0	2.9	19.5
80	26	Fired Earth Tiles	45	...	4.0	...	32.9
500	436	Forminster	498	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
80	42	Francis Donne	57	...	...	...	...
73	39	Gabbitas-Th	58	...	...	9.2	5.8
69	39	Gent SR	47	+ 2	2.0	5.7	13.8
38	18	Goldsmiths Gp	38	...	1.8	...	...
2473	1800	GUS	2473	+48	40.0	2.2	19.6
1728	1310	-do- 'A'	1610	+30	40.0	2.7	16.2
75	30	Hampden Grps	40	...	...	6.7	5.7
283	123	Harrisons	256	+ 9	4.8	3.5	15.7
25	16½	Helene Pic	23	+ ½	2.0	11.7	10.0
40	16	Heritage	36	...	...	...	...
55	29	Honeycombe	32	...	...	3.6	6.2
168	130	Hse of Larose	143	...	10.3	9.6	21.7
195	40	Jacques Vert	64	...	2.0	...	...
598	414	Kingfisher	557	+ 9	13.0	3.1	16.7
73	54½	Leslie Wise Gp	63	...	4.0	8.5	10.6
67	45	Liberty	67	...	7.2	7.4	10.8
216	171	Courtaulds	568	+11	13.0	3.1	15.4
247	142	Crods	243	+ 1	7.5	4.1	18.5
211	152	Ellis & Everard	191	+ ½	7.0	4.9	17.4
16½	7	Euro Colour	16	...	0.6	5.4	...
135	43	Evode	135	+ 5	3.5	3.5	∞
280	171	Halstead (J)	280	+ 2	...	2.9	15.0
227	158	Hickson	211	+ 3	7.8	4.9	13.4
1105	753½	Hoechst	1105	...	...	7.1	...
1410	975	ICI	1146	+13	55.0	6.4	27.6
660	454	Laporte	652	+12	18.9	3.9	17.5
328	138	Leigh	209	...	7.8	5.0	17.1
290	11	MTM	13½	...	1.8	...	2.7
1562½	1100	Norsk Hydro	1562½	-17½	...	2.1	...
400	360	Peacock Zoch	395	+ 4	11.4	3.9	17.0
395	355	-do- 'A'	371	...	11.4	4.1	16.0
301	231	Plysu	282	...	6.0	2.7	19.7
206	130	Porvair	206	+13	...	2.1	21.4
12	4½	Sutcliffe Speak	11½	...	...	...	...
475	329	Wardle Storeys	457	- 1	16.0	4.7	18.4
430	270	Wiggins Teape	430	+ 2	16.3	5.1	18.9
397	250	Yorks Chem	395	+ 4	...	2.4	20.6
273	214	Yule Catto	272	+ 1	5.4	2.6	16.5

ELECTRICALS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
103	35	AB Elect	86	...	...	5.4	9.8
197	129	ACT Group	169	+ 1	4.5	3.6	16.6
231	195	Acala	222	...	...	3.6	18.7
74	6	Acorn Comps	65	+ 3	...	...	...
419	290	Admiral	415	+ 5	4.8	1.5	18.8
133	94	Alba	116	...	...	4.7	9.5	15.1
75	7	Alphameric	20½	...	...	...	...
44	19	Amstrad	25	+ 1	0.4	2.1	...
141	83	App Holns	127	+ 2	...	...	...
22	12	Arlen	17	...	...	...	...
48	12	Assec	43½	...	...	...	...
292	218	Beales Hunter	269	+ ½	9.2	4.6	14.2
20	1½	Bennett & Fourn	2	...	...	...	...
373	207	BICC	368	+ 2	19.2	7.0	21.5
335	314	Bilek	334	+12	9.2	3.3	20.6
4575	1150	Borland	1450	+50	...	...	...
280	208	Burnthorpe	225	...	...	6.0	2.9	18.8
418½	305	BT	415	+ 8	14.4	4.6	15.1
315	212	BT New	310	+ 8	14.4	4.6	15.1
8½	5	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	6½	+ ½	0.1	2.1	...
226	80	Burnfield	128	+ 5	...	6.0	∞
731	489	Cable Wireless	705	+ 4	13.2	2.5	21.8
14½	4½	Chloride	12½	...	...	...	...
303	205	CML Micro	290	...	...	2.4	16.8
116	62	Comptr People	85	...	...	5.4	...	11.0
16	5	Cranbrook	7	...	...	...	...
146	107	Cray Elect	146	+ 3½	...	...	0.5	17.9
506	334	Delta	445	+ 4	14.0	4.2	17.6
267	148	Dennans Ele	267	+ 4	...	...	2.8	∞
582	375	Domino	582	+ 6	...	7.2	1.8	∞
69	43	Downing Mills	57	+ 2	...	2.5	5.8	18.7
1015	730	Dranke	985	...	...	...	1.3	23.1
377	233	Electrocomponents	377	+ 4	7.0	2.5	20.4
545	286	El Data Pic	470	- 5	...	5.1	1.5	∞
70	38	Electron House	68	...	...	2.3	4.7	20.4
15	7	Emess	15	+ 1	...	1.0	...	...
115	89	Envirotherm	516	+ 3	8.0	2.1	∞
122	51	FKI	119	...	2.3	2.6	23.0
367	227	Farnell Elect	344	- 1	5.8	2.2	18.7
40	18	Feedback	35	...	...	...	...
13	3	Ferranti	12½	+ 1½	...	...	...
134	30	Flint Tech	123	+10	...	...	...
88	71	Forward Gps	88	...	2.0	...	16.2
25	18	Forward Tech	19	...	...	...	3.8	10.6
298½	183	GEC	259½	- ½	9.6	4.4	15.3
227	102	Grasehy	163	+ 5	10.9	9.1	13.9
475	329	Hillsdare	29	...	...	1.7	12.7
535	395	Hoskyns Gp	453	+ 1½	24	0.7	∞
135	65	INSTEM	95	...	...	...	54

INDUSTRIALS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
198	135	AAF Inds	186	...	...	5.4	9.8
616	460	AAH	583	+ 1	16.3	3.9	17.9
203	122	AIM	150	+ 5½	6.5	5.8	9.3
136	76	APV	125	+ 1	5.4	5.8	22.6
168	50	ASW	130	+ 1	0.0	...	24.6
98	68	Advent	97	...	7.0	6.3	20.9
33	5	Aerospace Eng	12	+ 1	1.0	...	7.2
468	253	Aicrprung	467	...	7.5	2.1	13.0
115	38	Alendin W	114	...	3.6	4.2	61.6
22	11½	Allied Radio	11½	...	...	...	...
458	358	Alumasc	453	...	11.0	4.2	17.3
62	36	Alvis	52	...	4.0	4.2	∞
409	308	Amber Ind	395	...	17.0	5.7	10.6
33	13	Amberley Gps	20	...	...	6.7	...
169	128	Andrews Sykes	143	+ 3	4.4	4.1	...
710	510	Anglesey	710	+ 2	...	2.2	17.4
41½	29½	Armour	39½	+ 1	1.4	5.0	11.6
166	123	Ash & Lacy	161	...	6.4	5.3	13.3
3½	1½	Ass Br Eng	3	...	0.0	2.2	...
531	300	Avon Rubber	531	+ 6	16.5	4.1	∞
193	103	Assoc Nursge	193	+ 4	...	...	7.6
806	446	Atlas Equips	645	...	...	4.3	13.5
69	35	Ayrshire Metal	46	...	...	...	...
170	107	BBA	170	+ 5	7.5	3.9	21.9
53	24	BLP Groupns	28	...	...	...	...
417	49	BM Gp	57	+ 2	5.0	11.7	2.4
774	583	BOC	746	+11	23.2	4.1	16.4
75	51½	BSG	74½	...	3.2	5.7	20.2
422	256	BSS Group	406	...	...	5.7	16.2
361	281	BTR	358	+ 6	16.5	3.9	19.6
206	115	BWI	204	...	6.7	4.4	22.5
70	29½	Babcock	35½	+ ½	3.1	...	7.4
7½	3½	Bailey (CH)	7	...	...	...	...
266	195	Baird (Wm)	255	+ 1	8.9	4.7	16.4
1037½	550	Barlow Rand	962½	-43½	...	5.7	3.4
45	7	Barrett (JL)	7½	...	...	...	16.2
62	37	Barnes &Charles	55	+ 1	1.3	3.3	17.6
35	10	Beaumont	12	+ 1	1.8	...	...
18	5	Beckenham	8	...	...	8.3	...
31	10	Bedford (W)a	20	...	...	...	...
225	13	Benson Group	22½	...	0.1	0.6	21.1
650	444	Bespak	650	...	9.0	1.8	20.3
181	109	Bibby (J)	127	+ 2	0.7	10.8	7.1
174	84	Bilsam (J)	174	+ 8	4.2	3.3	8.0
55	28	Bilston Brtsea	31	...	...	...	18.4
169	105	Bimac Ind	169	...	0.6	...	...
39	20	Black Arrow	39	+ 1	2.1	7.2	9.3
11½	2	Black & Edgins	4	...	...	...	...
150	49½	Blick (Peter)	165	+ 1	2.9	2.4	20.1
140	32	Blenkhrd Toys	139	...	...	...	...
526	361	Bodycote	526	+ 5	9.2	2.3	18.6
571	398	Boots	499	...	12.4	3.3	19.7
84	40	Booth Inds	57	+ 2	3.2	7.5	5.0
508	312½	Bowater	497	+10	...	3.0	22.3
1637	905	Bowater Inc	1433	+98	...	...	2.0
219	126	Bozzaare Intl	216	- 3	...	2.1	20.8
20	13	Brassey	16½	...	0.5	5.3	18.7
274	186	Braemar	244	+ 1	13.0	7.1	16.8
33	11	Bridgend Gp	15	...	1.2	...	6.8
183	34	Bridon	81	+ 1	4.0	...	...
52	28	Bridport-Gundry	37	+ 2	...	8.1	9.7
543	298	Br Alcan Alu	298	...	...	...	...
47	38	Br Bloodstock	42	...	...	1.9	52.9
475	348	Br Polythene	460	+ 4	9.0	2.6	14.8
86	47½	Br Steel	77	+ 3½	...	1.7	73.3
120	88	Br Syphon	120	+ 5	9.0	3.3	23.6
149	9	Br Thornton	14	...	...	2.4	...
294	212	Br Vita	283	+ 1	...	3.6	17.3
12½	5½	Britton Grp	11½	+ ½	...	...	...
623	429	Broken Hill	617	+27½	...	3.0	28.3
128½	67	Bromsgrove Ind	94	...	4.0	5.7	13.0
7½	2	Brooke Tool	7½	...	0.2	...	...
83	38	Brown & Tawse	53	...	4.7	...	...
174	63	Bullough	110	+ 2	6.0	7.6	∞
37	13	Business Techs	25	...	...	...	30.1
35	12	CI Group	19	+ 2	2.0	14.4	7.8
66	14	Campbell & Arm	34	...	2.0	...	...
70	2	Cannon St	34	...	3.5	...	7.0
238	161	Cape	230	...	10.5	6.1	14.7
197	120	Carrin Eng	196	...	7.8	5.3	16.5
2400	1675	Carrosel Int	2325	+12	...	3.9	7.2
88	55	Cassidy Bros	72	...	...	4.4	11.0
155	118	Castings	146	+ 1	...	4.0	11.5
140	90	Chamberlin Hill	123	- 2	6.0	6.8	7.3
207	467	Charter Cons	675	+ 6	21.5	4.2	16.2
268	178	Chesshrg	268	+11	...	4.1	16.1
139	90	Chilcott Gps	90	...	...	2.3	10.0
81	62	Chillington	70	...	0.5	7.2	...
170	90	Christie Ins	155	+14	3.5	...	...
53	33	Clayhithe	45	+ 1	2.5	7.4	...
140	80	Clayton Son	85	...	3.0	4.7	...
7	3	Cohen Dettigress	6	...	0.2	...	...
400	255	Cohen (A)	375	...	10.0	...	...
247	186	Community R	213	...	6.5	4.1	13.2
233	126	Concentric	233	+10	...	3.2	18.5
255	148	Coral (Wm)	153	+ 2	10.0	3.3	15.6
400	312	Cookson	394	+ 3	8.0	3.9	28.4
60	35	Copymore	43	...	...	8.4	8.4
260	176	Cornwll Plr 'A'	230	...	5.7

صكذا من الاصل

BT business database service goes national

By Derek Harris

BT's business information service (BIS), offering access to a number of databases useful to businesses, is going national from its two main bases in the South East and the Midlands.

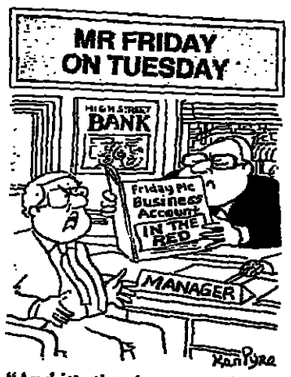
This month BIS will be mounting showcase promotions at BT communications fairs in Leeds (this week), Cardiff and Winchester. There is a full 1993 programme of fairs and BIS workshops and details can be had through freephone 0800 200 700.

Smaller businesses are a key target for BIS. The databases give broad business coverage, unlike existing highly specialised sources. At moderate cost, a small business will be able to run credit checks on suppliers and customers and research products and sectors. Increasingly, an international capability is being offered.

BIS has been operating for just over a year, with training sites in London and Birmingham. The main promotional effort has been restricted to the South East and the Midlands because BT regards initial training for customers to be crucial. Now, on-site training is increasing. This takes a day. There is a £100 registration fee, but this covers training. Richard Fryer, business development manager for BIS, said: "Complete familiarity with the system means a company can readily get the best out of it without going through an expensive learning curve while actually using it live."

Charges range from 50p to £5.65 a minute, but with fast retrieval to a user's disc, costs can be cheaper than using an agency or going direct to a database, claimed Mr Fryer. Minimum billing is £10 a month. There are eight main databases, offering a wide range of company and financial market information. News as well as sector and market research data is available, notably from FT Profile and Reuter Textline, which is being added, and should reinforce the capability to monitor product developments and other trends internationally.

Dun & Bradstreet, world market leader in providing company information, is also being added.



"And it's thanks to your bank charges that I'm in it!"

Computers are good medicine

By Sally Watts

BEGIN at the right time (when the market is just starting to move your way) with the right skills (systems analysis, programming, training, video-making) and success can follow fast.

This has been the experience over the past year of four consultants who between them have formidable skills.

They are Julian Hilton, David Smith, Steve Westmore and Jim Edgar. They set up AVC Multimedia in Norwich, aiming to create and implement systems for training management and promoting decision-making.

Biotechnology and health care were their specialities and, with the medical world moving rapidly into computers, this is the sector where the team from AVC have established themselves.

Through *Electronics Now*, the television programme, Professor Hilton, marketing development director, had met and worked with Mr Smith, marine biologist, researcher and consultant, of Burnham, Buckinghamshire. In 1987 they were asked to design software for a group of psychiatrists.

They secured EC funding — they were among 37 successful applicants out of 350 in an exploratory action programme in medicine — and their Ecu120,000 (£98,000) was spent on research.

Early feedback from this two-year project showed that with what had started as a simple demonstrator software system in the field of mental health, professionals could help fill a world market gap in customised systems for medical specialists.

The EC link led to a continuing partnership with the Dutch-owned Duphar Laboratories, at Southampton. From this partnership came Amigos, an innovative software system that keeps track of patients' records, gives information "on the desk" and can be accessed on a portable computer by mental health staff on home visits.

A growing number of doctors were becoming keenly interested.

PETER TREVNOR



Team talk: David Smith, Jim Edgar, standing. Professor Julian Hilton and Steve Westmore began at the right time

Professor Hilton says: "By the end of 1991 we had to decide whether to make programmes for real or not. So we went ahead, even though it seemed at the time to be a bit of a risk."

They had already been joined by Steve Westmore, freelance software programmer in inter-active video, from Lampeter, Dyfed. He is now AVC's technical director. Mr Smith is science director and Mr Edgar, a Manchester training specialist, is director of training. There are nine full-time staff, plus contract workers.

A further initiative with Duphar has produced a package on "defeating depression," providing up-to-date information for primary healthcare workers on diagnosis and treatment.

Early last year AVC made presentations to the World Health Organisation and the EC. It underlined the international implications of its work.

Professor Hilton, who is a visiting professor at the Technical University in Vienna, said: "We've had three strokes of luck: the link with Duphar, support from the EC and the World Health Organisation, plus the universal move towards community medicine."

For example, in the field of geriatrics, where care is costly, patients can be supported at home for longer because the quality of computerised information is so sophisticated.

AVC's products attract attention by their low cost, given what they can offer by combining text, pictures, sound and computer graphics.

The company — now moving to larger premises — saw sales of £350,000 in the first year of operation. In 1992 Amigos, which is being translated into main European languages, won for AVC the Anglo-Dutch award given by the Netherlands-British Chamber of Commerce for the best small business trading between the two countries.

The directors now have ideas for non-medical products and plan to set up alliances with hardware producers.

BRIEFINGS

As the government looks for ways to mitigate unemployment, research highlights the possible role of selective financial assistance to small businesses. A study by the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre covered the performance of nearly 1,400 small businesses in the province over five years after getting job-related assistance from Ledu, the region's small business agency. Comparisons were made with non-assisted small businesses in Northern Ireland, Leicestershire, Wearside and the Irish Republic.

At the end of 1990 only a quarter of the assisted firms had closed, and just over 10,000 jobs had been created. Comparisons showed about 32 per cent would have been created anyway without assistance. Some new jobs meant concomitant job losses elsewhere, so the bottom line was that between 41 per cent and 55 per cent were additional jobs. Allowing for unemployment costs, Ledu assistance seemed to be cost-efficient, said the research centre. But Ledu needed more stringent tests for larger clients to show that all other avenues of finance had been exhausted.

☐ More business start-ups are resulting from redundancy. One person in five now gives this reason for launching their own business, a 10 per cent rise over the past 18 months, according to research commissioned by National Westminster Bank. Half live in the south of England. Another 29 per cent in Wales and the Midlands.

Editor Derek Harris

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GENERAL

Ordnance Survey
Research Workshop

To supplement its programme of support for relevant long term research projects at Higher Education establishments, Ordnance Survey (Britain's National Mapping Agency) is running a summer Research Workshop to encourage short-term intensive research in the fields of land surveying and mapping. The workshop will be open to approximately 6 post-graduate research students or University staff and will run from 26 July to 3 September 1993 at Ordnance Survey's Southampton Headquarters.

Topics of current interest to Ordnance Survey include:

- Generalisation of OSCAR
- Specification for benchmark testing GIS packages
- DTMs (accuracy, update methods)
- Orthoimagery (accuracy, automated creation, automated error detection)
- Integrated Field Survey Systems (use of GPS and hand-held PCs for map update, combined use of total stations and GPS in map update)
- Comparison of spatial datasets for quality assessment and change detection
- Arc/info for QC in basic scales polygon formation

However, this list is by no means exhaustive and applicants are encouraged to approach Ordnance Survey suggesting other subjects they feel may be of interest.

All applications for workshop places must be submitted by Friday 5 March 1993 to:

Ross Christie, Workshop Director, Research & Development, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Maybush, Southampton, Hampshire. SO9 4DH. Tel: 0703 792554 Fax: 0703 792404.

Applicants should include a CV (concentrating on recent experience), a detailed description of their proposed research project and a list of the facilities they would require. Further details, including a guide to the research fees payable to participants, may be obtained from the above address.

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LAW

● SEX AND VIDEOS 31
● LAW REPORT 32

Anass action faces collapse because of legal aid worries, **Sean Webster** reports

Millions lost as crugs case falters


GLYNN EDWARDS

Advised to withdraw from the action against a drug manufacturer: Valerie Basson

he Legal Aid Board has announced it is withdrawing legal aid from 1,700 people claiming compensation for addiction to Valium, Libium and Mogadon. The decision, which is open to appeal, threatens the continuance of the mass legal action over tranquilisers, the biggest personal injury case in Britain.

There are several reasons for the withdrawal of aid, but one is thought to be that too few claims are backed by good medical evidence. Personal-injuries lawyers therefore fear that some claimants with good medical evidence will have to withdraw from the action because of the large number of weak cases in the group; and they argue that the tranquillisers action involving benzodiazepine-class drugs (of which Valium, Librium and Mogadon are members), shows there should be a radical change in the law governing big multi-party actions.

Valerie Basson, of Tonypandy in Mid Glamorgan, south Wales, is one of the claimants now being advised by her solicitor to withdraw from the action against Roche Products which manufactures Valium. Roche is part of Hoffmann-La Roche, the large Swiss company.

She claims her life has been ruined by addiction to Valium. She was first prescribed the drug in 1978 after marriage problems. Her solicitor says her case is strong because unlike many of those claiming over Valium she had no previous medical records of psychological problems. Also her case dates from the late 1970s, which is significant because the action hinges on whether adequate warnings could have been given earlier in the light of the knowledge at the time. Many other cases date back to the 1960s.

Mrs Basson says she quickly developed a dependency on Valium and after a year was getting through a month's prescription in two weeks. When she tried to come off the drug, she claims she suffered hallucinations, loss of memory and began to stutter. "It's incredibly difficult to come off them," she says. "When I've tried, I've lost all my confidence and I've been afraid to leave the house." She left her husband in the early 1980s.

In 1991 she applied to social services in Mid Glamorgan to foster a child. A previous hysterectomy prevented her having children but she wanted to bring up a child with her new husband. Mid Glamorgan social services refused to allow her to foster a child after an examination of her medical records. She says her Valium addiction was the reason they gave for rejecting her application.

She believes the legal system has let her down. "You'd need to be stinking rich and have an open-ended cheque book to carry on with this action," she says. "I can't afford to go on with the claim. I could lose everything, including my house, and still not win."

Mrs Basson is still taking Valium but has managed to cut down to 20mg a day, half what she was taking when her habit was at its worst.

The Legal Aid Board's decision to suspend legal aid for 1,700 claimants means that even those with good cases will have to drop their claims unless they succeed in an appeal. In addition, those financing their cases privately will also be forced out because of increased costs per head if the claimants lose.

In the tranquillisers action, the defence lawyers were required by Mr Justice Ian Kennedy to investigate each and every one of the initial 17,000 claims. This involved psychiatrists making reports on each claimant, which cost about £500 a case, and getting the opinion of counsel, which also had to be paid for. Ninety-eight per cent of the cases were legally aided, which is estimated to have cost the Legal Aid Board millions of pounds.

Some lawyers are asking what went wrong? Why were so many cases brought this far if they are now thought to be inadequate? In all, 5,250 people are suing the makers of six tranquillisers and sleeping pills in the benzodiazepine class. The cases involving three other drugs in the class — Ativan, Serenid and Halcion, a banned sleeping pill — are now also being reviewed. Lawyers on the steering group which co-ordinated the action will not comment because the Legal Aid Board is still to make a final decision on the cases involving these three drugs.

Richard Barr, of Dawbarns, a firm in King's Lynn, Norfolk, says the benzodiazepine case shows there should be a complete change of system for dealing with big group actions. He believes the cost of these cases has got out of hand. He says the broad question of liability and causation should be tackled first by a publicly financed judicial enquiry using a few test cases. "Only then should every case be looked at to see whether it fits the criteria laid down in the enquiry."

Mr Barr concedes that it would be expensive to determine whether there was liability and causation as a general principle and would probably need a trial of the duration of the Sellafield leukaemia case, which is likely to last six months. But this, he says, would have been more cost-effective than the process in benzodiazepines, where millions have been spent initially investigating the circumstances of every claim.

Dealing with the overall issues, such as whether a company has been negligent (which are known to lawyers as generic issues) in reference to a few cases would not totally save the expense of investigating each case, as several cases would still have to be examined to find suitable test cases. But, Mr Barr says, that would be cheaper than carrying out an initial investigation of every single claim.

Lawyers now argue that the law is not structured to deal with these large claims. "The rules of the Supreme Court are geared towards single claims and there are no specific rules for multi-party actions"

Charles Hopkins of Leigh Day and Co, in London, agrees. The firm was recently refused legal aid for people claiming compensation from tobacco companies for smoke-related illnesses. He says the system must change. "The difficulty at present is that the courts are still in the process of evolution — developing practice and procedure to deal with these cases. A set of rules is needed."

The Association of Personal Injury Lawyers also thinks that the law needs reform and is drafting a set of rules, which it hopes to discuss with members of the Supreme Court Rules Committee.

Defendants' lawyers take a different view. David MacIntosh, senior partner in Davies Arnold Cooper, a City law firm representing Roche Products Limited, believes the present system is fair and that each case must be examined before anything else happens. "Causation can be established only by looking at each and every case," he says. "It is impossible to make judgments on cause and effect where the individual claims differ in their medical history, medication and even allegations of injury.

"The idea of dealing with general principles of liability first is unrealistic because such an enquiry in drug-related matters is likely to be extremely expensive and should never be incurred unless there are sufficient cases in which causation can be proved. Roche Products has always maintained that its products are safe and effective."

The Legal Aid Board is worried about the millions spent in this case and has made suggestions to the Lord Chancellor's Department on how these type of actions can be made more efficient. Many lawyers are now saying that new rules need to be framed to give the public a fair chance when up against the huge resources of drug manufacturers over product liability. Otherwise, the public will have no chance of bringing successful actions against drug companies, no matter how valid their claims may be.

● *The author writes for* Solicitors Journal.

> 'The difficulty is that the courts are still developing practice and procedure to deal with these cases'

Wanted: the right to free speech

The report by Sir David Calcutt, QC, "Review of Press Self-Regulation", has criticised, and has in turn received, a bad press. Its content, and the reaction to it, demonstrate that English law needs to develop principles of freedom of expression that provide a framework for analysis of press rights and responsibilities, whether in general or in relation to specific questions of media law.

Only by the incorporation into English law of Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, guaranteeing the right to free speech, can we hope to assess adequately whether the telephone conversations of the Prince of Wales and Mrs Camilla Parker Bowles should remain private, whether interviews with prisoners serving life sentences should be televised, and whether subscribers should be allowed to watch hard-core pornography broadcast via satellite in the middle of the night by the Red Hot Dutch television company.

James Madison, one of the fathers of the American constitution, wisely suggested that "some degree of abuse is inseparable from the proper use of everything; and in no instance is this more true than in that of the press". In the attempt to remedy isolated, but well-publicised newspaper excesses, the Calcutt report would, if implemented, substantially impede the ability of all journalists to perform their essential function of providing us with information of which those in power would rather we remained ignorant because it challenges and embarrasses the received wisdom.

Calcutt's recommendation of a statutory tribunal with powers to restrain publication of information and impose fines on newspapers is one of the most ill-conceived ideas to come from a public policy adviser in many years. The potential for censorship, and the arbitrary distinctions between the press and other means of communication, which it would create are incompatible with any concept of freedom of expression in a democratic society.

Calcutt is right to recommend a new tort to protect privacy, but wrong in the failure to recognise the context in which this should be achieved. The harsh reality of press law in the UK is that the media seek to perform their functions under the most restrictive set of legal restrictions in the democratic world. If there are to be additional fetters, they should be only part of a package of reforms that includes the enactment of a general right to freedom of expression.

Courts readily issue injunctions to stop the publication of newsworthy articles that are said to be in "breach of confidence". An expanding law of contempt threatens journalists with imprisonment. Instead of a freedom of information law, we are patronised each year by the release of those 30-year-old documents which officials are satisfied it is now safe to let out. The English law of libel is the most restrictive of free speech in the world.

Despite the condemnation of our laws of contempt and breach of confidence in Strasbourg in cases such as those brought by *The Sunday Times* over Thalidomide and *Spycatcher*, the UK refuses to incorporate into domestic law Article 10 of the European convention so as to provide for a right of freedom of expression allowing for a restriction only where this serves a "pressing social need".

Were the Convention to be incorporated into domestic law, the right to privacy — under Article 8 — would also be recognised, as it should be. But to create a right to privacy without protecting free speech would be to misunderstand the legal position under the convention.


COUNSEL
DAVID PANNICK QC

In 1986, in *Winer v United Kingdom*, the European Commission of Human Rights rejected a complaint that the absence of a privacy law was a breach of the convention. The commission explained that a law protecting privacy would be a restriction of freedom of expression, the right to which must also be safeguarded.

The gravest threats to privacy are not posed by newspaper reports. A statutory right to privacy would need also to protect individuals from the actions of the government and its agents. A new tort of privacy, as part of a general review of press law that recognises the fundamental right to free expression, would also be a more practical way of protecting rights than the creation of a series of new criminal offences.

Incorporating Article 10 into domestic law would provide a framework for a balance between press rights and responsibilities. Since Article 10 covers the right to receive as well as to impart information, Calcutt's recommendations would substantially reduce all our rights to freedom of expression. After all, as Mr Justice Stewart explained in the US Supreme Court in 1972, "if it is to perform its constitutional mission, the press must do far more than merely print public statements or publish prepared handouts".

The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Red Hot dilemma for the state, page 31

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PN spies a lawyer

FOR HLP with his libel action ainst *New Statesman & Society*, John Major has broht in David Hooper of Bid & Co, a London firm. An interesting choice: Hoope represented Peter Wright his epic and eventually vorious battle with Margt Thatcher's government over the publication of the foer MI5 man's book, *Spycatcher*.

Is th a case of "if you can't beat m, join 'em"? "No comment," says partner Martin Wter.

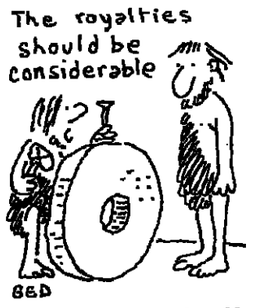
Polprotest

THEoldest poll tax defaulter on rord, Tudor John — age 94 - is still fighting Hammersith and Fulham in London is local council. He was senenced last May to two wes in jai but won a last-minte reprieve when an unknn donor paid his bill.

Acordingto *The Big Issue*, thenagazine sold by homelesspeople, which has been follwing tis case, west Lolon majistrates issued a ne liabiliy order against him in December, resulting in a sit fron the bailiffs. But MJohn maintains that on a £3 a weel pension, he cannot pay the £274 due and has vowed he will also fight the council tax if that turns out to be a "disguised poll tax".

Disinventive

IN 1992, Jerome H. Lemelson earned more than $200 million in royalties from his 500 patents. But will a new proposal on US patent law be



the death now of the individual inventor?

The proposal is to bring the American patent system into line with those in Europe and Japan, awarding patents on a first-to-file basis rather than the first-to-invent basis long recognised in the US.

The advantages are that new ideas begin to circulate sooner and that world patent systems would become harmonised. But solo innovators would be disadvantaged by such a system and US innovation generally could be threatened by the increased incentive to foreign competitors to steal American ideas.

Neighbourly

DIFFICULT neighbours can no longer stop you going on to their land to carry out remedial work to your own property or garden. On January 31, the Access to Neighbouring Land Act came into force, enabling people to get a court order authorising their entry to a neighbour's land to carry out remedial work. At present, it depends on getting the neighbour's permission.

Kidnap law

THE US Supreme Court has provoked widespread outrage with a recent decision allowing American agents to kidnap foreigners outside the country and return them to the US for trial. The case involves a Mexican doctor kidnapped by American agents to face allegations of involvement in the torture and murder of a US Drug Enforcement Agency official.

The US-Mexico extradition treaty does not specifically outlaw kidnapping but nor does it outlaw murder. Most observers thus believe that the doctor's abduction breaches the extradition treaty and international law.

Studied move

THE TREND for law firms to take on academic consultants is growing: the latest example is S.J. Berwin, which has announced the appointment of Professor Sidney Preveser, former professor of law at Sussex University.

Professor Preveser, whose expertise is in commercial law and litigation, has, unusually for an academic, a background as a practising lawyer: he was senior partner, then consultant for Brecher & Co. between 1959 and 1979.

To the cleaners

JEEVES of Belgravia, which takes pride in its stiff collar cleaning service, is beefing up its free collection and delivery service. Despite applying no fewer than seven layers of starch to each collar, it boasts it can now arrange collection and delivery to have collars back the next day. All for £2.60 a collar. Solicitors are regular visitors to Jeeves's City shop at Moorgate, where it also offers a total valet service, taking in stiff-fronted dress shirts and waistcoats.

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Sex, laws and videotaping via satellite

The state is failing to control pornography.

Patrick Stevens offers some advice

The obscenity laws in this country are in an abysmal state. The problem is not that we have insufficient laws but too many of them. The laws are imprecise and patchily enforced.

John Major has called for a review of the law in the wake of the belated discovery that there is little the government can do about Red Hot Dutch, the satellite channel. The current furore is because the channel screens hard-core pornography and supplies it to Britain.

Even people who already have a satellite dish have to buy a further £700 worth of decoding equipment. They then have to pay a subscription by credit card. The films are transmitted in the early hours.

The system is soon to be changed to prevent the films being video-recorded. Some might think that anyone prepared to go to these lengths is entitled to watch whatever they want.

However, that is not the British way and the hunt is on to find a law to stop people watching the broadcasts.

The trouble with digging out one of our rusty laws for this purpose is that it shows both their sheer inconsistency and just how infrequently they are enforced.

This embarrasses the authorities. I once tried to prise out of the Crown Prosecution Service a set of its guidelines for prosecution under the Obscene Publications Act 1959, but it refused, saying guidelines were confidential. However, the Metropolitan Police has a list of eight acts which, if shown in a video-recording, are considered sufficient to constitute an offence. They are masturbation, ejaculation, fellatio, buggery, flagellation, cunnilingus, oral sex and ordinary intercourse. Readers will notice that there is an element of duplication here, but you should not expect consistency.

The problem is that at least five of the eight acts can be seen on sex education videos, easily available from reputable shops, and bearing British Board of Film Classification insignia. Given that the educational content of these videos is suspect, it is difficult to see how *The Lovers' Guide* can be legal and the same acts make, say, *Rampant Stud*, illegal.

Since the Video Recordings Act 1984 it has been illegal to hire or sell a video that has not been classified by the board. So infrequently is this enforced that many advertisments for pornographic videos make a virtue of the fact that the videos are unclassified.

A further problem is that once a prosecution is started, the outcome is a lottery. The view of defence lawyers is that magistrates always convict and juries always acquit. This is probably because magistrates are concerned with protecting the public while juries consider themselves to be members of the public capable of protecting themselves by not buying the material in the first place.

> People do not worry unduly over adult acts of consent

If nothing else, this suggests that those in positions of authority are out of touch with public mores. In a survey carried out by Gallup for Channel 4's *Check out '92*, more than 80 per cent of people polled said they would not be offended by videos showing close-ups of sexual penetration.

It is often said that it is one of the characteristics of pornography that every act is shown in close-up. It is difficult to think of a rational argument for saying that viewing such activities would deprave and corrupt anyone.

As every student of jurisprudence knows, there is little point in having laws that are not supported by most of the population.

Laws that are not supported, and only sporadically enforced, are positively harmful in that they encourage disrespect for the law. What is needed is to start from first principles and look at what the public will support, not what politicians think is good for us.

There is a consensus. The public is not unduly worried by what adults do to each other by consent, provided evidence of their activities is not on public display and not available to minors. There is strong antipathy to anything involving children and scenes of serious sexual violence. There is even evidence that the pornography industry recognises this and to a certain extent polices itself. Those who go to Soho sex shops for child pornography are told that the items requested will be available in an hour. When the customers return, they find the police waiting.

We should build on this consensus and recognise that if the frontiers of what is acceptable have changed, the law must change to reflect this. A useful start would be to bring mainstream pornography into the film classification board's system as Category P. The sale of such material, including magazines, could be restricted to licensed sex shops. With clearer guidelines, the police could concentrate on seriously violent and paedophile pornography and not waste their time with material that the public does not regard as particularly offensive, let alone tending to deprave and corrupt.

● *The author is a practising solicitor*



Adult right to see? Scene from the one of the Emanuelle films, a series once criticised as being too explicit

How provincial firms are winning City business

Small outfits are spreading work among London and country offices

Hammond Suddards, the Yorkshire law firm with a strong London presence, today announces the opening of a new office in Manchester this May. The fact that the firm is acting now shows great confidence in its ability to attract new work. Moreover, according to Trevor Lewis, joint senior partner, the office will open with a staff of 25, including 15 fee-earners.

But this is not a "green shoots" story. Instead, it reflects the fact that even in a recession — perhaps even because of recession — some law firms still do well. And it shows the strength of the "Yorkshire factor".

Looking at the overall growth among the country's top 25 law firms between 1989 and 1992 the two outfits with the most dramatic track records are both based in the north. Dibb Lupton Broomhead — now thirteenth in size and ahead of significant City names such as McKenna and Richards Butler — has registered expansion of 124 per cent while Hammond Suddards, now on a par with Frere Cholmeley and Ashurst Morris Crisp, has increased its head count by 66 per cent.

> The flagship office can offer a good rate for City work

The chances are that these two firms will continue to forge their way up the league table in size. Already they consider they are in, or near, the top 10 for quality.

Essential to their growth is the fact that despite having regional origins, both now have strong London offices. Dibbs has 23 partners in London and almost 60 other fee-earners. So while the development of regional law firms is probably the most exciting thing happening in the English law business, the inescapable fact is that a substantial London operation is critical.

Part of the client appeal of Hammond Suddards and Dibb Lupton is that they can offer the best of both worlds: high calibre legal expertise combined with chepaer fees. For example, Dibbs can provide a "swings and roundabouts" blended-fee rate. Because work is done in departments rather than in offices, it is quite possible that lawyers from several locations can be involved in a transaction. So rather than the charge being on the basis of whether the hours come from London or Bradford, it is a blended rate — a mean between the two. This means a client can go to Dibbs's London Wall office and get rates lower than those of the City firm down the road.

Variations on this arrangement are also being offered by one or two London firms that also have offices elsewhere in the country. Penningtons, for example, is based in the Broad Street area but also has offices in Newbury and Godalming, among other towns.

Penningtons is now making an important drive into Europe and beyond. It employs a number of foreign lawyers and it hopes to play a role, for example, in the forthcoming Italian privatisation campaign, for which City credentials are essential. Likewise, it is advising the Croatian embassy in London on commercial contacts going back to a time before the present war. The Croatians might not be so happy using a firm based in Basingstoke or Bournemouth, where Penningtons also has offices.

But, as Mike Nathanson, a Penningtons partner, emphasises, price is now vital, whatever work you are pitching for. The firm's flagship London office is able to attract conventional international City work but offer a good rate by having some of it done outside the capital. For example, high-value debt-collecting work for European banking clients can be undertaken from Bournemouth rather than Broad Street.

This does not mean, however, that Penningtons and Dibb Luptons are going to converge five years hence. Dibbs sees itself as a firm with a clear focus on national work and clients. Penningtons as a City firm with an international mission.

EDWARD FENNELL

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Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Professional Footballers' (Enterprises) Association Ltd

Before Lord Templeman, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Griffiths, Lord Ackner and Lord Slynn of Hadley

[Speeches January 28]

Value-added output tax was not separately payable on the cost of trophies given to award winners at a presentation dinner when the receipts from ticket sales, on which output tax had already been paid, had been used to buy the trophies.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from the order of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Glidewell; Lord Justice McCowan dissenting) (*The Times* March 11, 1992; [1992] STC 294) upholding the order of Mr Justice Nolan ([1990] STC 742) who had dismissed the commissioners' appeal from a decision of a VAT tribunal that output tax was not payable by the Professional Footballers' Association (Enterprises) Ltd on the cost of trophies presented to award winners at the PFA Awards dinners 1984-1987.

Mr Nigel Pleming, QC and Miss Jennifer Richards for the commissioners; *Mr William Massey* for the company.

LORD SLYNN said that each year between 1984 and 1987 the company had arranged for professional football players, members of the PFA, to vote in order to select the players' player of the year, young player of the year and the award winning teams in each division of the Football League, who were to receive awards at an annual awards dinner.

The award winners were to receive trophies, purchased by the company at a price plus VAT and suitably inscribed. The winners did not pay for their awards.

The issue on the appeal was:

1 Whether the trophies supplied to the winners by the company were supplies of goods otherwise than for a consideration, as contended by the commissioners, so that VAT fell to be paid on the cost of the trophies to the company under paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 and paragraph 7 of Schedule 4 to the Value Added Tax Act 1983, or

2 Whether the trophies were supplied for a consideration included in the price of the dinner tickets, as contended by the company, so that paragraphs 5 and 7 did not apply. In the second alternative VAT had already been paid on the price of the dinner and was included in the price of the dinner tickets.

It was agreed that it was sufficient if consideration was provided by a person other than the recipient, but there had to be a direct link between the awards provided and the consideration received.

The issue thus became very simply whether it could be said that there was a direct link between the price of the dinner ticket, or part of it, and the awards.

The commissioners said that there was not. They contended that there were two or perhaps three separate supplies.

First, the supply of the dinner to the purchasers of the tickets coupled with the right to watch the presentation ceremony; second, the supply of advertisements to the dinner sponsors in relation to their contribution; third, the supply of trophies to the award winners who paid nothing and for whom nobody paid the company anything.

In his Lordship's view the VAT tribunal had been perfectly entitled, and indeed right, to find on the evidence that what each of those attending paid for included not merely seeing the presentation of the awards, but the actual provision or supply of those awards. It was a vital part of the evening.

The tribunal was also right to look at the entire transaction and not to seek to break it up into different parts.

The dinner was, and was intended to be, a self-supporting event. The receipts from the tickets, from advertising and from the sponsors had to pay for the dinner, the entertainment, the awards and other expenses. There was in reality one set of accounts for one entire event.

It did not matter that no identifiable part of the purchase price of each ticket could be shown to go specifically towards the cost of the trophies. The fact was that expenses were to be met out of receipts and it was impossible to say that there was no consideration for particular expenses.

Paragraph 5 did not cover a situation like the present. It was directed to cases where the taxable person had obtained a credit for input tax on the purchase of a business asset and then had merely given it away without payment of output tax.

It might well be, as Mr Justice Nolan had adumbrated, that the sponsorship moneys could also constitute part of the consideration for the provision of the awards. That did not alter the position. It mattered not whether the ticket money paid for the whole or part of the trophies or merely contributed to the entire expense of the evening including, as a vital part, the supply of the trophies.

Either way there was a sufficient direct link between the sum the diners paid for their tickets and the supply of the awards. It followed that there was consideration for the provision of the trophies and no VAT was payable separately on their cost.

Lord Templeman, Lord Bridge, Lord Griffiths and Lord Ackner agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise; George Davies & Co, Wilmslow.

Acquiescing in inexcusable delay

Harwood v Courtaulds Ltd

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Steyn and Lord Justice Evans

[Judgment January 28]

A defendant acquiescing in a plaintiff's inexcusable, inordinate and prejudicial delay in prosecuting an action was thereby debarred from having it dismissed for want of prosecution. Moreover, any "post-acquiescence" delay by the plaintiff could not be relied on by the defendant to entitle him to have the action dismissed unless that further delay was shown to cause some additional prejudice.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by the defendants, Courtaulds Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice McCullough sitting at Chester in April 1992 allowing the action begun in 1982 under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 by the plaintiff, Mrs Anita Harwood, the widow and administratrix of the estate of Mr Harry Harwood, to proceed.

From 1982 to 1988 the plaintiff was guilty of inordinate and inexcusable delay in prosecuting the action. That delay was likely to preclude a fair trial and was such that it might have entitled the defendants in 1988 to claim that the action be dismissed for want of prosecution.

But in 1990 the defendants acquiesced in the delay, thus losing, by estoppel or waiver, their right to claim that relief. Thereafter there was a further period of inordinate and inexcusable delay by the plaintiff of some four months which caused, at most, minimal additional prejudice.

Mr Nicholas Underhill, QC and Mr Shaun Ferris for the defendants; Mr Geoffrey Tattersall, QC and Mr Mark Chatterton for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE STEYN said that the scale of delays in personal injury litigation was a public scandal. The major cause was the dilatoriness of plaintiffs' lawyers. Unfortunately the courts' power to strike out for want of prosecution had only a limited remedial effect.

The real problem was caused by the fact that as the law stood even the most stale of claims could only be struck out if the defendants could establish a substantial risk to a fair trial or other serious prejudice.

It was that jurisdictional requirement which rendered the power of the courts to regulate the progress of actions in the public interest relatively ineffectual. It made that area of the law of procedure extremely complex and led to wholly stale claims being allowed to proceed.

However, the court was bound to apply the principles enunciated in *Birkett v James* ([1978] AC 297), reaffirmed in *Department of Transport v Chris Smaller Ltd* ([1989] 1 AC 1197).

The defendants argued that the judgment of Lord Justice Diplock in *Allen v McAlpine* ([1968] 2 QB 229, 260) showed that it was not necessary to show that some additional prejudice was caused by the subsequent delay. But the question of law in the instant case had not been the subject of argument in *Allen*. Lord Justice Diplock would have been surprised to hear that he had decided that issue.

The question of law had to be answered by applying first principles. Given that estoppel, waiver, or acquiescence operated as a matter of law and that the jurisdiction was only exercisable if prejudice in some form was shown, the principled approach was to hold that there had to be further inordinate and inexcusable delay resulting in some additional prejudice. The defendants sought to justify dismissal for want of prosecution without proof of any prejudice flowing from the relevant subsequent delay which was the foundation of their application. That was contrary to the principles laid down in *Birkett v James*.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that it was permissible to approach the case on a simpler basis. The defendants had shown delay at two distinct stages. They had shown prejudice caused by the first stage of delay; namely, that no trial could take place less than 11 years after the events.

The subsequent delay was not sufficient to cause any significant reduction in the prospects of a fair trial and the defendants should not be permitted effectively to change their attitude towards what was the consequence of the earlier, rather than of the later period of delay.

Regard had to be had to the whole history of the proceedings, including pre-acquiescence prejudice as well as pre- and post-acquiescence delay.

But regard had also to be had to the conduct of the defendants. They had accepted the consequences of previous delays without making their acceptance conditional on there being no further delays and they could not thereafter complain of those same consequences, notwithstanding that further but insignificant delays had occurred.

Lord Justice Nourse gave a judgment concurring with both Lord Justice Steyn and Lord Justice Evans.

Solicitors: Warner Cranston; Norman Jones & Co, Birkenhead.

No power to refuse right to buy order

Taylor v Newham London Borough Council

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, *Master of the Rolls*, Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Hirst

[Judgment January 27]

The court had no discretion under section 138(3) of the Housing Act 1985 to refuse a tenant's application for an injunction to enforce his right to buy under Part V of the Act.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by Newham London Borough Council from Judge Goldstein at Bow County Court, who had, *inter alia*, struck out their defence to the claim for an injunction brought by the tenant, Mrs Cathryn Taylor, to require the council as landlords to complete the sale of a dwelling house, 96 Carlyle Road, Manor Park, London by conveying the freehold to her. The tenant had exercised her right to buy the property under the Act and had satisfied the relevant conditions in section 138(1).

Section 138 provides:

"(1) Where a secure tenant has claimed to exercise the right to buy and that right has been established, then, as soon as all matters relating to the grant and to the amount to be left outstanding or advanced on the security of the dwelling-house have been agreed or determined, the landlord shall make to the tenant — (a) if the dwelling-house is a house and the landlord owns the freehold, a grant of the dwelling-house for an estate in fee simple absolute . . . in accordance with the following provisions of this Part.

"(3) The duty imposed on the landlord by subsection (1) is enforceable by injunction."

Mr David Watkinson for the council; Mr David Brook for the tenant.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the issue was whether on the tenant's application for enforcement by injunction the court had a discretion to refuse that relief.

His Lordship referred to Mr Watkinson's submission, derived from observations of Lord Justice Nourse in *Dance v Welwyn Hatfield District Council* ([1990] 1 WLR 1097, 1104, 1105), that the court had a discretion on such applications akin to that on applications for specific performance to refuse relief for example on the ground of hardship to third parties.

His Lordship was unpersuaded. He did not think that Lord Justice Nourse in drawing attention to analogies such as specific performance and options to purchase was introducing into the statutory remedy doctrines which had grown up under that general law.

In his Lordship's judgment, once the conditions in section 138(1) were satisfied, the tenant was entitled as of right to an injunction to enforce the landlord's duty to convey the property to him, and the court had no discretion to withhold the injunction.

It might be going too far to say that there could never be any ground for withholding injunctive relief, but his Lordship found it impossible to conceive of a situation where that would be the case.

His Lordship referred to Mr Watkinson's argument, based on *Spry's Equitable Remedies* (4th edition (1990) pp435-436), that in the absence on express statutory provision Parliament was not to be taken as excluding ordinary equitable principles relevant to the grant of injunctive relief.

Rejecting that argument, his Lordship said that section 118 of the Act had created the right to buy and section 138 expressed the landlord's duty in unequivocal and mandatory terms. Parliament had not intended general considerations of hardship to afford any ground to refuse an injunction under section 138(3).

He referred to the introduction of the legislation in 1980 and to the opposition felt by councils faced with parting with publicly owned accommodation to those exercising their right to buy.

The court would do violence to the intention of Parliament if it did not recognise that its intention was to block reluctant landlords obstructing the tenant's right.

The judge correctly held that he had no discretion to refuse the injunction and the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Hirst agreed.

Solicitors: Mr G. M. Curran, East Ham; Kenneth Elliott & Rowe, Romford.

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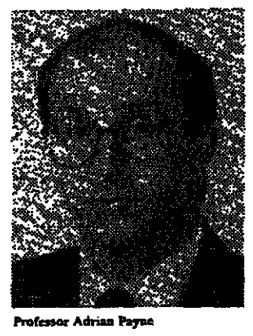
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MUSIC page 34

Forget about other violinists: Gidon Kremer on top form, as at the Barbican, has no rivals

ARTS

THEATRE page 35

Joan Littlewood: the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, is thriving 40 years after she revitalised it



Rebel puts the accent on comedy

Heather Neill talks to Scottish poet and performer Liz Lochhead, whose version of *The Tempest* opens this week



JULIAN HERBERT

Liz Lochhead: her popularity all over Scotland as a performer ("a slightly dirty Joyce Grenfell") eventually made it difficult for her to continue working as a teacher

When she was an art student in Glasgow, Liz Lochhead began writing. "It had no connection with painting. That's why I did it. At school, when I was supposed to be writing, I used to draw." This spirit of productive rebellion is the thread running through all her poems, monologues and plays, of which the latest, *The Magic Island*, a version of *The Tempest* for children, opens at London's Unicorn Theatre on Saturday.

Lochhead long ago hung up her painting brushes. But as a writer — and an inspiring reader of her own words — she is busier than ever. She is rewriting her five-year-old play *The Big Picture* for revival in a small theatre in Musselburgh, near Edinburgh. There have been other adaptations, notably the Mystery Plays at York last summer, and "Scottishised" versions of *Tartuffe* and *Dracula*.

> 'You laugh more at the jokes in a tragedy. Comedy is cooler'

But Lochhead is anxious to get back to original work. She may finally write that play for the Royal Shakespeare Company. The RSC appointed her as a writer-in-residence in 1988, but nothing has yet emerged. Part of the trouble, she feels, is that she has "grown up in poor theatre" and finds the RSC and its resources a bit scary. Now, however, the RSC play and maybe a film and a television sitcom are bubbling away.

This is a process she describes as "cooking" subconsciously. There may be a period as long as a month when nothing much seems to have happened, but ideas are shaping without even Lochhead herself being aware of it. Then a few words occur to her, or a line or two, often a pun or a joke. She calls it a "donnée". Years ago, in the early Seventies, when she attended an extramural creative writing class run by Philip Hobsbaum at Glasgow University, he told her never to ignore the "donnée". "He said that not only would a poem die, but the next one would, too. You've got to worry away at it to get the best." A "voice" is essential. In the case of plays and monologues these are characters; poems have a voice of their own. "a persona, not necessarily my voice".

The monologues, like the hilarious "Glasgow's No Different" in *Bagpipe Muzak*, spoken by a waitress in a theme-restaurant ("we also do a 'Parkhead Bake' — that's spinach and white fish in alternate Celtic stripes") demand to be read in character. Their humour comes from Lochhead's beady eye on humanity in general, but also on the varieties of Scottishness. "Part of the comedy in Scots is that you talk one way to one person, another to another." A point she could exploit to the full when rendering the hypocrisy of Tartuffe into Scots-English.

She is quick to discount any notion of a "Scottish school". Yet an unmistakable Scottish humour glints in all her work. "I can't really imagine a piece, however serious, that wouldn't have jokes. Sometimes you laugh more at the jokes in a tragedy. Comedy is cooler, structured, technical."

Lochhead is not given to elaborate theories about her work. She seems to follow intuition, shape the result and then view it objectively. "I write a poem and realise 'Oh, that's what I think about that.' Obviously, feminism has altered what I write, but I don't feel I've got an agenda. I just want to explore different ambivalences."

The first time she read her work in public was back at that Glasgow art school, with Robbie Coltrane doing e.e. cummings on the same bill. "It's good to have tough competition. You get better that way — and it gets the audience in a good mood."

By 1972, she had published her first collection of poetry, *Memo For Spring*, and in 1978, at the age of 30, left her job teaching art in a secondary school to take up a writer's fellowship in Canada. Her popularity all over Scotland as a performer ("a slightly dirty Joyce Grenfell") had made working life pretty well untenable anyway. "It was difficult to teach after getting the milk train back from Dumfries. I was a bit of a wreck."

Other fellowships followed, and other collections. But she has always responded more to the stimulus of people around her than to abstract commissions. Her generous acknowledgements to director Gerry Mulgrew and the Communicado Theatre Company for their work on *Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off*, and to the cast of *Dracula* in the Penguin edition, testify to her enjoyment of the process of getting her plays on. "I love rehearsal rooms. I love actors: they're so brave and they do it for peanuts."

When we met she had just been watching a run-through of *The Magic Island* where the actors were "learning to juggle while speaking and working out emotional through-lines, taking it as seriously as if it were proper Shakespeare". She pays attention in rehearsal to theatrical necessities, noting whether a scene seems too long or "takes a dip" and altering accordingly, but she is, literally, punctilious when the final version is fixed. "I'll say, 'You're putting a comma in where there isn't one', or 'That's dot dot dot not a dash'."

The Magic Island is an original play which stands in relation to Shakespeare rather like a child acting out its parents' role. It is respectful but cheeky, and sometimes innocently direct. The story is told from Miranda's point of view. She and her magician father, Prospero, have been cheated out of their "Empire", a theatre, by Prospero's brother, the greedy accountant Antonio. There is plenty of scope for theatrical magic, but there is magic in the language too — some of it Shakespeare's.

Many familiar lines remain intact. For Lochhead, Caliban is the play's most attractive character. "He's one of the few buffoons in Shakespeare who speaks poetry, and it's very moving." This is a "fairly green version" and there is a moral, more explicitly drawn than in the original, that living in harmony is worth more than material success. "I hope it's not too trite", says Lochhead.

She was writing, she says, "for the 12-year-old in me, and that's not far beneath the surface." There is no talking down; the underlying theme, that there are different ways of looking for freedom, is there to be picked up by children beginning to assert themselves as separate from their parents.

Much of the humour in *The Tempest* is reminiscent of "very old music hall routines". These are retained, but there are changes too. Stefano and Trinculo are merged into one happily-named character, Drinculo, who has a good line in altered clichés: "Fortune favours fools, and kings are but cabbages with crowns on. And so the last shall be first, pigs shall fly and fish will whistle, and I, Drinculo, declare myself King Drinculo of this island, because I — and only I — have got the key to the proverbial tuckbox!" But if anybody has the key to a proverbial tuckbox, it is surely Lochhead herself.

● *The Magic Island opens at the Unicorn Theatre at the Arts Theatre, Great Newport Street, London WC1 (071-836 3334) on Saturday at 2.30pm*

Alison Beckett on the Cartier Foundation's scheme to help galleries acquire major examples of new art

Jewels to crown a museum's collection

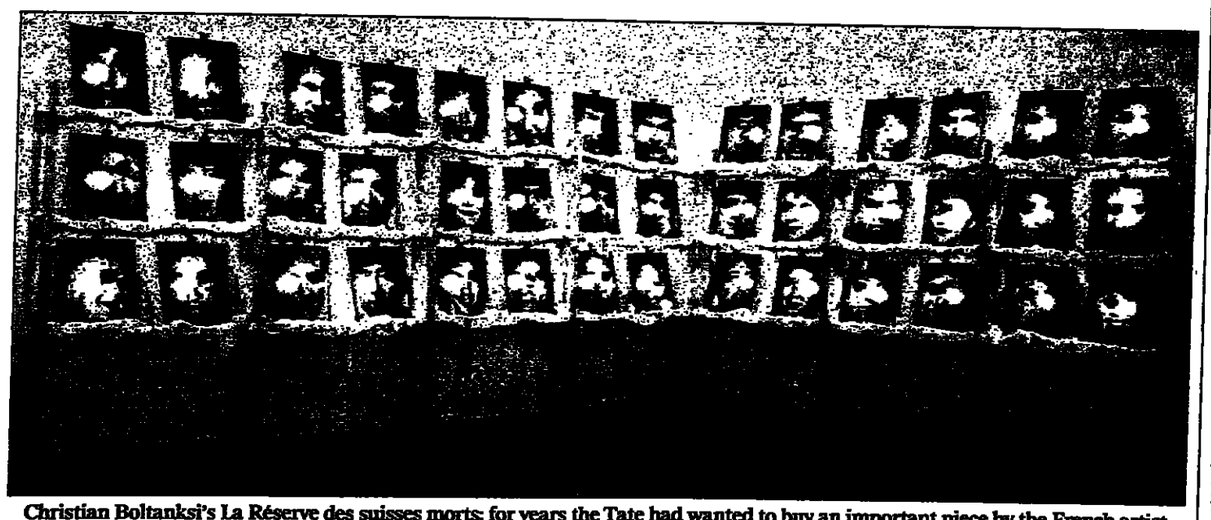
When Jeremy Lewison, deputy keeper of the Tate Gallery's modern collection, met Marie-Claude Beaud, director of the Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Art, in Los Angeles three years ago, he happened to remark that the London gallery was short of cash. Later, desperate to acquire a premier work by Parisian artist Christian Boltanski, Lewison said: "I suppose you couldn't help?". He needed perhaps one million French francs. "Are you crazy?" Beaud replied.

But tomorrow *La Réserve des suisses morts* by Boltanski will be publicly unveiled with the Tate's annual rehang. The work fills a gap in the gallery's collection. More significant, perhaps, it is the first donation in a newly devised Cartier scheme administered by the Foundation for Contemporary Art. The scheme is based at an operations centre in Paris which looks as if it will exert a Medici-like influence over the world's leading contemporary artists.

The project — triggered, says Beaud, by Lewison's plea — involves a unique three-way collaboration in which the foundation, set up by Cartier specifically to promote new art, matches up an artist with a gallery anxious to acquire his or her work. Cartier commissions the work, pays for it (money no object up to, say, £500,000 a go), exhibits the finished item in Paris, then donates it, no strings attached, to the gallery concerned.

"Our old policy was just to acquire," explains Beaud. "But it was not our destiny to have a museum collection. We haven't the room and it's a stupidity to keep it in storage. So instead of making our collection bigger, we decided we should help museums like the Tate, as well as artists. Curators haven't the money, especially for the big names."

The Tate gift (although nobody is saying just how much it was worth) is a stepping stone to the new policy, since Boltanski's photographic installation was an existing work of art, rather than one commissioned for the gallery. But in future the foundation will commission two projects a year, comprising either a single piece or a series of works, and provide publications to go with them.



Christian Boltanski's La Réserve des suisses morts: for years the Tate had wanted to buy an important piece by the French artist

So the multi-million franc question is, how does one get lucky? "At the moment we're considering the Whitney Museum in New York and the Museum of Modern Art in Frankfurt, and thinking of artists such as Gilbert and George," says Beaud. Gilbert and George are already foundation favourites, along with the likes of Arman, Sam Francis and Barry Flanagan. "It's a very personal choice. I wanted to help the Tate because I was excited by the idea of Nicholas Serota changing the display every year. I thought it a very unusual and courageous thing for a director to do."

Moreover, making one donation to a gallery does not rule out another. "I see a project as creating a partnership that may continue. Suddenly everyone wants to be my partner," adds Beaud.

For the Tate, which has no other Boltanskis, she has proved to be fairy godmother. "Now we are able to represent a major contemporary French artist with an exemplary work from a very rich phase of his output," says Lewison.

The work comes from Boltanski's series *Les Suisses morts* and comprises 42 photographs taken from the obituary columns of a Swiss newspaper, enlarged to near life-size portraits and arranged in neat rows on a wall like an orderly cemetery. Each fuzzy snapshot is spectrally lit with a spotlight and has at its base a roll of crumpled white linen to resemble a shroud.

Boltanski, who was born and lives in Paris, has long shown an obsession with death, a sense of the absurd and the darkest of humour in his work. He comments ironically that he is making his living by selling images of cadavers. But Cartier seem not to mind. "Think of the cost of arranging an international exhibition," insists Beaud. "This way we spend perhaps the same amount of money but there is something permanent at the end of it."

In terms of corporate image, dead bodies or not, it is also an outstanding investment. Alain-Dominique Perrin, president of Cartier International, knew the value of corporate art sponsorship when he set up the foundation in 1984. He said he felt it was part of a company's obligation to be involved in the culture of the time. But, in a clever marketing ploy, he chose to promote contemporary art rather than jewellery. So contrary was this to his firm's traditional image that it made people look at Cartier more carefully.

Since then the foundation has been situated at Jouy-en-Josas on the outskirts of Paris, organising temporary exhibitions *in situ* and abroad, acquiring new works and assisting more than 150 up-and-coming artists by providing studio space and financial backing. At the same time Perrin himself has formed one of the biggest collections in France of contemporary art.

No direct connection links any of the artists with Cartier products. "But we now have more cultural images in our advertising," admits Beaud. Cartier's new watch factory in Switzerland was designed by the prize-winning French architect Jean Nouvel, who is also responsible for the new headquarters in Boulevard Raspail, Paris, a glass and metal fantasy being devised around a giant cedar planted by the pioneer 19th-century romantic author and sometime politician, François René, Vicomte de Chateaubriand.

"We want to change how people think about creative work," says Beaud, who has commissioned German conceptual artist Lothar Baumgarten, currently showing at the Guggenheim, New York, to design the garden. The building, due to be operational next year, will incorporate a large exhibition space and offices for both the foundation and Cartier Paris. It will be furnished by young French designers.

On top of the new collaborative policy, the foundation will continue to help lesser-known artists and to hold regular shows, all of which is expected to set Cartier back around £2.5 million annually; considerably less than promoting a new Cartier product, but a little coffer of gold to artists and curators. Even countries such as India and China, and African and eastern European states, as yet judged too unstable for permanent donations, are to be offered loan exhibitions from the Cartier collection (which comprises more than 600 works).

So Beaud's influence on artistic taste worldwide seems destined to prove enormous. "I didn't think of it like that. I'm just following my instincts," she confesses. But then, where would Botticelli or Leonardo have been without patrons like Lorenzo de Medici?

It's all Greek to the ENO's hidden extras

ONE WOULD expect Peter Jonas, present boss of English National Opera, and Dennis Marks, his successor, to be working closely together to ensure a smooth change-over at the end of this season. But their collaboration seems to go further still. For on a just-completed Decca/Argo recording of *Greek* — the Steven Berkoff play turned into a savage opera by the young English composer Mark Anthony Turnage — the voices of Jonas and Marks apparently feature among the "extras". Both are, of course, famous champions of the controversial work: Jonas found a slot for it at ENO while Marks snapped it up for BBC TV.

The pair contribute to the opera's "police riot" scene, which depicts the constabulary in a less than flattering light. One utters those immortal words "Evenin' all", while the other delivers — or more probably screams — something more provocative. Which line was given to which man may be guessed by those with keen ears.

ARTS BRIEFING

● THOMAS ATTWOOD, Birmingham's first MP, has been immortalised in bronze. A new sculpture shows him reclining on the steps of Chamberlain Square, pen in hand. It is the work of Sioban Coppinger and Fiona Peever, and is the latest product of Birmingham's public art scheme. Attwood was a radical who led the campaign that brought about the 1832 Reform Bill.

Last chance . . .

TO complaints that the so-called *Frieze Of Life* on which he was working throughout the 1890s might better be called the Frieze of Death, the great Norwegian painter Edvard Munch might well have replied that for him it came to the same thing. In this long series of autobiographical paintings, the cream of which is on show at the National Gallery (071-839 3321) until Sunday, the death of his sister and his mother and his ill-fated love life are transmuted into a depressive view of life, preoccupied with the skull beneath the skin, and famously embodied in the many versions of *The Scream*.



Sioban Coppinger, co-creator of the sculpture of Thomas Attwood now reclining in Chamberlain Square, Birmingham

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

LONDON

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET The company comes to London with a season chock-a-block full of ballets. Tonight's opening night includes Graham Lustig's flirtatious *Paramour*, Hans van Manen's duet *Twilight*, the Don Quixote pas de deux, Ashton's 1931 parody *Façade*, Kurt Jooss's 1932 polecat ballet *The Green Table* and Kenneth MacMillan's *Pavane*, presented as a tribute to the choreographer who died in October. Later in the week comes David Bintley's delightful comic ballet, *Hobson's Choice*.
Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916). Mixed bill, *Tues, Wed, 7.30pm; Hobson's Choice*, Fri, Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

LONDON PHILHARMONIC: Lynne Dawson, Kurt Azesberger and Simon Keenlyside are the soloists in a selection of Schubert's rarely heard choral music: the offertonos "Intende voci" and "Totus in corde langueo" together with his Mass in G and *Auguste jam coelestium*. Stravinsky's *Firebird* features in the second half of the programme conducted by Franz Welser-Möst.
Festival Hall, *South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800)*, 7.30pm.

LA MUSICA: Harriet Walter and Larry Lamb star in a full-length version of *Marguerite Duras's play late at night in a hotel a divorced couple speak of love and parting*. Opening night.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9224). Tonight, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

INTERNATIONAL MIME FESTIVAL: Catalan company **Els Joglars** gives the final three performances of *I Have an Uncle in America*, a thought-provoking drama criticising the conquest of America by the Spanish (Riverside Studios, tonight-Wed, 7.45pm); our own mime expert **David Glass** premieres *Glasseye* on a double bill with *Parrot in Love* (Purcell Room, tonight-Wed, 8pm); and the more mainstream **Trestle Theatre Company** looks into city life with *State of Bewilderment* (Cochrane Theatre, tonight-Sat, 8pm).
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-748 3354). **Purcell Room**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800). **Cochrane Theatre**, Southampton Row, WC1 (071-242 7040).

ANITA CARMICHAEL: Considered to be one of the most outstanding new female jazz performers to appear on the British jazz scene recently, Anita Carmichael studied composition at the Guildhall School of Music and finished her studies under Stan Getz. She is respected both as singer and saxophonist. Jazz-fusion group Red Cut Loud are the support.
The Gallery, Bondway, Vauxhall, SW8 (071-820 9857), 8am-1am.

REGIONAL

CROYDON: **The Russian All Stars'** staging of the Tchaikovsky ballet *The Sleeping Beauty*, on ice, is intended to be popular entertainment. Although lacking in sensitivity — a lot of the small detail is missing from the choreography and the recorded account of the music is blasted across the stage — the skill and bravura of the performances keep *the audience applauding. The show is on a national tour until June*.
Fairfield Halls, Park Lane (081-688 9291), tonight-Sat.

GLASGOW: **Scottish Ballet** is reviving Peter Darrell's production of the Tchaikovsky classic *The Nutcracker*, following its successful performances in Japan. Former Bolshoi soloist Vladislav *Bubnov* makes his British debut with the company at selected performances.
King's Theatre, Bath Street (041-227 5511). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm.

GLASGOW: The Wrestling School, specialists in Howard Barker, premiere **The Europeans**, set in the aftermath of the Siege of Vienna, 1683. With the *Christian defeat of the Turks a new* Europe can be born: what form will it take? A national tour follows.
Tramway, Albert Drive (041-227 5511). Tonight-Sat, 8pm.

MOLD: Richard Alston's *Strong Language*, boasting sharp designs by Katharine Hamnett, returns to the repertoire of **Rambert Dance Company** which is presenting two mixed programmes in Mold this week. From Friday there is an opportunity to sample Siobhan Davies's popular *Winsboro Cotton Mill Blues*, a piece for ten dancers, set to piano music by Frederick Rzewski, and combining the blues with the sound of textile mills turning.
Theatr Clwyd, County Civic Centre (0352 55114). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

NOTTINGHAM: **The English Shakespeare Company** continues the rounds with its stagings of *The Tempest* (with Irish actress and singer Olwen Fouere in the role of Ariel) and a revival of Bogdanov's favoured *Macbeth*.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Square (0602 482626), 7.30pm.

PORTSMOUTH: More live mayhem from dance band **Stereo MC's** whose third album, *Connected*, provides a *heady mix of Sixties psychedelia*, Seventies funk and Eighties rap.
Pyramid Centre, Clarence Esplanade, Southsea (0705 877895), 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

■ **CAROUSEL**: Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphant revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein fairground musical.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.15pm. 190mins.

◪ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC**: Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

◪ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA**: Rattigan's play on infatuation gets into high gear. Strong performances by Penelope Wilton and Linus Roache.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). *Mon-Sat*, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

◪ **THE GAME OF LOVE AND CHANCE**: Energetic update of Marivaux's role-swapping comedy mistakenly played for farce.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.30pm. 140mins.

◪ **THE GIFT OF THE GORGON**: Peter Shaffer's latest: bloodthirsty revenge versus forgiveness on a modern Greek island. Deep issues, iffy treatment but Judi Dench is powerful.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tues-Thurs, 7.15pm, mat Thurs, 2pm. 165mins.

◪ ***HAMLET***: Kenneth Branagh superb in Adrian Noble's production.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Thurs, 6.30pm, mat Thurs, 12.30pm. 270mins.

◪ **HAY FEVER**: Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats, Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◪ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Anna Carteret, Hannah Gordon and Martin *Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing"* melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

◪ ***AN INSPECTOR CALLS***: Stephen Daldry's thrilling Expressionist production of Priestley's soul-searcher.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2pm. 115mins.

☐ **IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY**: Larks in the hospital common room, matron outraged; doctors flummoxed. Ray Cooney farce with lots of laughs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 135mins.

■ **KING LEAR**: Solid, respectable performance by Tom Wilkinson in a low-powered staging by Max Stafford-Clark with Saskia Reeves, Hugh Ross.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. 195mins.

☐ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**: Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins.

◪ **THE LAST YANKEE**: Subtle and touching Arthur Miller premiere. Zoe Wanamaker, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged Americans troubled by material success or lack of it.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm. 75mins.

◪ **LOST IN YONKERS**: Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a *Neil Simon comedy more weighty than* usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

◪ **MR CINDERS**: Samuel West and Sally Anne Triplett help spread more than a little happiness in the Vivian Ellis charmer reversing the Cinderella story.
King's Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (071-226 1916). Tues-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, Sun, 3.30pm. 150mins.

◪ **OUR SONG**: Peter O'Toole in Keith Waterhouse's play about a menopausal male's infatuation with a young woman. Neatly done though we only hear the man's point of view.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8.15pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. 135mins.

■ **RICHARD III**: Ciaran Hinds takes over from an injured Simon Russell Beale in Sam Mendes's memorable RSC production.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-867 1150). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2pm. 195mins.

☐ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT**: William Gaunt (replacing Simon Cadell), John Wells, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044). ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317). ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072). ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Arts Theatre (071-836 2132). ☐ **Dancing at Lughnasa**: Garrick (071-494 5085). ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070). ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045). ◪ ***Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat***: Palladium (071-494 5037). ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909). ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400). ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443). ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400). ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665). ◪ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ANNABELLE PARTAGEE (18): Paris ballet student hesitates between lovers. Ferociously dull sexual drama. Writer-director Francesca Comencini, with Delphine Zingg, François Marthouret.
MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561).

♦ **BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA** (18): Gary Oldman as the Transylvanian legend, preying on Victorian London. Visually audacious, but cold to the touch. Francis Coppola directs. With Keanu Reeves, Winona Ryder.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

CHAPLIN (12): A skilled impersonation by Robert Downey Jr., but Richard Attenborough's bitty biographical epic never penetrates far inside the man or his career.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

L.627 (15): The Paris police drugs squad's daily routine: stake-outs, violence, paperwork. Vividly filmed by Bertrand Tavernier, though too long for its material. Starring Didier Bezace, Nils Tavernier.
Renoir (071-837 8402).

♦ **MIDNIGHT STING** (15): Rival conmen lock horns over a boxing contest. Ugly, crowd-pleasing fare, with James Woods, Bruce Dern, Louis Gossett Jr. Director, Michael Ritchie.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

NIGHT AND THE CITY (15): Small-time lawyer Robert De Niro turns boxing promoter. Restless, disappointing remake of the 1950 classic. With Jessica Lange; director, Irwin Winkler.
Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353)

♦ **RESERVOIR DOGS** (18): A jewel robbery goes haywire. Quirky tale of betrayal, loyalty and violence from bright new talent Quentin Tarantino. Stars Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SCHTONK! (15): Boisterous comedy based on the Hitler diaries scandal. Muted as satire, but enjoyably plush. With Götz George, Uwe Ochsenknecht; director, Helmut Dietl.
Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

SWEET EMMA, DEAR BOBE (18): István Szabó's piercing portrait of disordered life in post-communist Budapest: his best film in years; strong *performance from Johanna Ter Steege*.
Metro (071-437 0757).

♦ **SINGLES** (12): The love problems of Seattle twentysomethings. Engaging, *upbeat entertainment, nicely portrayed* (Kyra Sedgwick, Campbell Scott, Matt Dillon). Writer-director Cameron Crowe.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279/379 7025) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772).

TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12): Wonderful, melancholy portrait of French Baroque musicians Sainte-Colombe and his pupil Marin Marais. **Curzon Mayfair** (071-465 8865).

A WINTER'S TALE (12): *A Paris* hairdresser's quest for true love. Eric Rohmer near his best: elegant, clear-eyed, realistic. A film laced with magic. Stars Charlotte Véry.
Minema (071-235 4225) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

THEATRE: **Jeremy Kingston** admiringly goes the distance with a prodigious performer

Knockout? It could be verse

MARILYN KINGWILL



Kerry Shale: he could be a contender for the title of memory man

The Set-Up
Gate, Notting Hill

THE 1949 movie version of this extraordinary narrative poem was shown on BBC 2 over the weekend, turned by Hollywood into prose, given romantic interest and an upbeat ending. The hapless boxer's skin was also changed from black to white.

As almost every champ for the past half century has been "a man of colour", the racial prejudice infesting boxing circles, admittedly in 1920s New York, comes as something of a surprise. But presumably what passed at the top end of the market did not hold good lower down. A limpid quote in the programme from former champion Larry Holmes suggests this: "It's hard being black. You ever been black? I was black once — when I was poor."

Pansy Jones, the weirdly named hero of the poem, is black and passing his prime. His managers, Cohn and McPhail, "the lice of the ring", are too greedy to tell him they have fixed the fight and when the poor sap wins he falls foul of the out-of-pocket promoters. It is not an edifying tale but the doggerel couplets give the conflict an undeniable excitement.

A boxer's "left" is often rhymed with "deft", and "right" with "might", but the poem comes up with half a dozen rhymes for "bell", the word that shifts the mood of the fight itself from violent action to dogged apprehension, and also takes the listener's attention outside the ring and into the howling crowd.

The poem was written in 1929 by Joseph Moncure March, later an editor on *The New Yorker*, and is packed with vivid pen portraits of the combatants, handlers, onlookers and other types. All of them are personated by Kerry Shale in another of his remarkable memory feats — 90 minutes of speech split by an interval.

He sits on a battered cane chair on a dais like a miniature boxing ring, dressed in natty striped suit with a snap-brim derby on his head. When he snarls, the two halves of his Clarke Gable moustache rear up like a pair of fighting caterpillars.

He has already read this poem for broadcast on Radio 5, but the gain in theatrical performance is his hypnotic presence, a few feet away under the fierce light, which generates something of the thrill of the ring itself. Aided by the poem's faithfulness to the truth of experience — March knows the *different taste of a bottle of water as the* fight progresses — Shale takes you into the tough, vicious centre of what is apparently known as "the manly sport".

GALA: **John Higgins** sees Jose Carreras become an honorary Australian for a celebration of Australia Day

Not so much a date, more a mating game

Australia Day
Covent Garden

AUSTRALIA Day was celebrated slightly late at Covent Garden. But Sunday's Gala, attended by the Prince of Wales, was well worth the wait. Jose Carreras, still enjoying his triumphs in *Stiffelio*, was co-opted into an otherwise all-Australian line-up, an honorary Oz for the day.

The pick of the native singers was Yvonne Kenny. She has been appearing in the title role of *Alcina* at the Garden and now grasped a chance to seize back the aria, "Tornami a vagheggiar", which in the opera's doleful December production was assigned to another and minor character. This was Handel sung with poise and brilliance.

She was joined by Suzanne Johnston in the Act I duet from Delibes's *Lakmé*, a somewhat saucy choice as Qantas was a gala supporter and this particular number has been made famous by a British Airways commercial. Earlier Johnston, a very neat mezzo who was Dorabella these last two summers in the Glyndebourne *Così*, gave a roguish account of Urbain's "Nobles Seigneurs" from *Les Huguenots*.

Yvonne Kenny's other partner in duet was Carreras himself, in the waltz "Lippen schweigen" from *The Merry Widow*. To date Carreras has declined to appear in German opera — or operetta — on the most reasonable grounds that he is insufficiently fluent in the language. He certainly has the suavity for Danilo and on this showing Kenny is a natural for Hanna, a role she has *not sung on stage. They should start* casting for it now.

"Tutte le feste" from Jonathan *Summers was a re*minder that he is back in *Rigoletto* for English National Opera at the Coliseum later this week. His disappointing partner was Joan Carden, who made her Garden debut as Gilda almost 20 years ago. Carden should now be looking at other roles. Earlier in "Let the bright seraphim" she had been overshadowed by the powerful trumpet of James Morrison.

Leslie Howard played Liszt (*Totentanz*) with vehemence and conviction. John Williams was graceful in Albéniz (*Asturias*) and Penelope Thwaites skittish in Percy Grainger, a rare piece of Australiana in the *evening.. But perhaps Pineapple Poll* (Sullivan, arr. Mackerras) could just slip into that category, as Sir Charles was on hand to conduct extracts from *his own early ballet score and amiably* presided over the whole evening.

Jose Carreras put the same care and fervour into two popular Italian songs, Tosti's "Ultima canzone" and "Torna a Surriento", that he has been giving to *Stiffelio*. The voice is currently in *glorious form. He then led the company in the brindisi from Traviata*, now the almost obligatory close to any gala. For once it was appropriate: Carreras's first Covent Garden appearance was as Alfredo.

Chief sponsor was Foster's, tinnies much in evidence, with support from *The Times*; chief beneficiaries were the *Australian Musical Foundation and the Carreras Leukaemia Fund.*

Successive evenings of an exceptional quality

Stephen Pettitt *reviews two very different concerts at the Barbican Hall that shared a common excellence*

FORGET Nigel Kennedy, and for that matter forget any other living violinist. **Gidon Kremer** in this form quite simply has no rivals. None of his colleagues can present such a combination of instinct, intelligence, virtuosity, insight and, as he proved with one *outrageous (and unidentified) encore* that brought the audience to its feet on Saturday, wit. No violinist, either, can be blessed with quite so sensitive a pianist-partner as Kremer has in **Oleg Maisenberg**. He was apparently playing in considerable pain: hence an eleventh hour radical change of programme which denied us Bartók's Second Sonata. But his wonderful *lightness of touch, the ability to conjure* the most hushed, controlled pianissimo even when notes were coming in fast torrents (and that with the piano's lid fully open) was something of a miracle. Like Kremer, he also shows a formidable range of colour.

A notable *minority of the audience* consisted of young violinists, eager to drink from the master's cup. They would be ill-advised to mimic his stance. He looks rather like an inside right dribbling a football on a treadmill, swaying his thighs, raising himself on his toes, even lifting the odd leg. Despite that, he produces some amazing sounds.

Schubert's A minor Sonatina, D385 (or Op 137 No 2), was ripe, expansive, touchingly wistful, though perhaps demanding of more intimate performing circumstances: not exactly a barnstorming opener. But then Kremer and Maisenberg plunged headlong into Webern's Four Pieces, Op 7, in which, even though every gesture was made to count, there was always a palpable sense of phrase. No silence, no fragment of sound, was isolated without context: how easy and natural *this music sounds when played like* this. Then came Schoenberg's Fantasy, Op 47, the composer's last instrumental work, and a transcendent one, written in 1949. A melody-oriented piece (the violin part was written first). it was realised with deep understanding, and not a little fire, by both parties.

Dvořák's lovely Four Romantic Pieces, Op 75, proved that Kremer is also adept at relaxing into an old-fashioned, ripe tune, while the closing work, Liszt's Grand Duo Concertant on Lafont's *Le Marin*, gave him the chance to tackle an impressive manifestation of the virtuoso tradition hitherto consigned to obscurity, one could surmise, on account of its extreme difficulty. No problem for Kremer, who even added a spontaneous flourish of his own at the end.

But before these indulgences came a real discovery, the Second Sonata *(1926) by the Czech composer Ervin* Schulhoff, who perished young in the Nazi concentration camps. The work betrays the stylistic influence of Bartók, but its ideas and workings are strong and individual: a compelling 5/8 Burlesca and a lovely, bluesy Andante framed by purposeful outer movements. Schulhoff knew what he was doing, and on this evidence he obviously deserves further investigation.

THE previous evening another adventurer, **Nikolaus Harnoncourt**, conducted the **Chamber Orchestra of Europe** in a programme devoted *exclusively to Mozart's* "Haffner" Serenade and "Haffner" Symphony. Listening to the Serenade as an entity — which occupies an hour — is slightly problematic. The work was composed to be played al fresco at a wedding party (for Elisabeth Haffner in 1776), where guests were presumably able to natter and nibble between and even during its eight movements (nine including the March, K249, which preceded it then and here).

There were no pauses for breath here, and despite Mozart's abundant inventiveness — this is by no means slight music — by the third minuet an element of ritual had inevitably crept in. *But the performance was a happy*, stylish and polished one, graced with Marieke Blankestijn's exquisite violin playing in the self-contained concerto which constitutes the third, fourth and fifth movements, and afterwards Harnoncourt and the COE were at their bustling best in the more compact, exhilarating symphony, written six significant years later.

ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Ave W1 071 439 4805 Whoopi Goldberg in SARAFINA (15) Progs at 1.00, 3.35, 6.10 & 8.40 Last Week From Fri DAMAGE (18)

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St. 071 465 8865 Gerard Depardieu in TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12) Progs at 1.10 (not Sun) 3.30, 6.00 & 8.25

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd. 071 867 1044 HOWARDS END (PG) Progs at 2.50, 5.15 & 8.05

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 836 3161 cc 240 5258 cc (24 hr) 240 7200/344 4444 Reg'd Charity No257210 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 THE TURN OF THE SCREW. Tomor 7.00 CARMEN

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911. Standby info 836 6903. S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. THE ROYAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 Stiffelio. THE ROYAL BALLET Tomor 7.30 Cinderella.

THEATRES

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Party headquarters, open to all

Benedict Nightingale on an East End theatre faithful both to the spirit of Joan Littlewood and to its local audience

Early one evening in 1972 an actor noticed a woman on all fours as he entered the Theatre Royal, Stratford East. It was Joan Littlewood, its artistic director and a figure of world renown. In an hour's time a first night would start; yet here she was with bucket and brush, slopping and scrubbing at the front steps like any East End housewife.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"Expecting company," came the reply. "What about you?"

On the fortieth anniversary of Littlewood's arrival at the Royal, that anecdote still sums up much of what the theatre has been and still aspires to be. We in the audience are not there passively to play the part of rolling stock, or an EngLit class, or voyeurs at a peepshow, or coconuts in a shy. We are not there to pay our money, be shunted into the stalls and left to stew. We are there to be welcomed by ushers and actors alike, guests at a party that often seems to spread from the packed bar through a busy main corridor into the auditorium itself.

Nor is the party fare offered in that snug 460-seater so different from that in Littlewood's day. Last night a play about immigration control at Heathrow, Paul Sirett's *Worlds Apart*, opened there. On Saturday Ken Hill's *The Invisible Man* begins previews at the Vaudeville, giving Stratford, whose *Five Guys Named Moe* is still at the Lyric, two West End transfers. That mix of social concern and fun, melodrama and music, remains as characteristic of the Royal as the bites and ale in the bar.

The theatre has often had a reputation for rumbustiousness. In 1884 the actor-manager George Dillon lectured the very first audience for cracking nuts and throwing the shells about while he was playing Lord Lytton's Richelieu. In the 1920s wire netting protected the orchestra from the rotten fruit with which the balcony liked to pelt their melodrama villains. Yet the theatre is also in the borough that first elected a Labour council and made Keir Hardie the first Labour MP. It was a place perfect for Littlewood, with her belief in populist politics and popular theatre.

She was a Londoner, but had honed her creative teeth in left-wing theatre in Manchester. The permanent move to Stratford East of the company she and her husband, Gerry Raffles, called Theatre Workshop came in February 1953, and was a difficult one. The average wage, under £2 a week, forced actors to live in their dressing rooms and subsist on coffee and vitamin pills. Even when the company was established, its members had to paint, decorate and clean as well as perform. As late as 1958, wise audiences would bring rugs and hot-water-bottles, knowing that the heating was as run-down as everything else in the almost completely unsubsidised theatre.

Yet the gypsy camaraderie and enforced informality helped explain Littlewood's growing success. Brendan Behan was discovered, and his attack on capital punishment, *The Quare Fellow*, was performed. So was Shelagh Delaney and her *Taste of Honey*. Then came Behan's knockabout

> 'It presents eight new home-produced works on its main stage each year'

play about the IRA, *The Hostage*, and Lionel Bart's musical *Fings Ain't What They Used To Be*, and, in 1963, the company's mocking tribute to Haig and the other impresarios of 1914-18, *Oh! What a Lovely War*.

How to sum up Theatre Workshop's style? That is tricky, for Littlewood believed in adapting the manner to the matter, and presented several rigorous revivals of Elizabethan classics. But always she sought to replace what she regarded as bland West End mannerism with the fresh and immediate. She did much to discover the so-called "working-class actor", and she expected him to explore his character in Stanislavskyan depth and yet perform it with Brechtian ease. More than any other company, Theatre Workshop refused to accept the proscenium arch as an absolute divide and players often engaged the audience in banter.

That remained the case after Joan Littlewood, grief-stricken by Raffles's death, left England for France in 1975. Warren Mitchell, playing a celebrated East End bigot in *The Thoughts of Chairman Alf*, cheerfully bandied insults with an enormous woman who yelled, "Men! I've had three husbands, pissed 'em all off. Who needs 'em?" The Giant's wife in one of the theatre's famously rowdy pantomimes had to deal with a tot who asked how such different-sized people cope with sex. Vaudeville in the form of Sunday night variety is one of Littlewood's legacies, and so is a vaudeville style of performance.

That has sometimes led to spurious jollification. Theatre critic Irving Wardle thought the management capable of "organising a knees-up on the Titanic", and I have found its attacks on the government's policies softened by sentimental humour. Yet Philip Hedley, director of the theatre since 1979, can point to times when he has embraced a funhouse style with success and to others when he has diverged from it. Remember Nell Dunn's comedy about the occupation of a threatened bathhouse, *Steaming*? Or *The Public*, Lorca's forgotten play about homosexuality?

Finances are still tightish at the Royal; yet it continues to build on what Littlewood created. It must be the only English playhouse to present eight new, home-produced works on its main stage each year. And it regards it as a duty to perpetuate what Hedley calls "a continuous loop between the community and the theatre". People still sometimes come to Stratford-atte-Bowe from points west, as they did for John Wells's *Mrs Wilson's Diary* two decades ago; but it is more important to listen to local concerns and wishes, and reflect and fulfil them onstage.

Nor has that proved a recipe for provincialism. It has meant new work by Tony Marchant, Barrie Keeffe and Daniel Mornin, the scurrilously anti-Thatcher play *A Short Sharp Shock*, *The Invisible Man* and the original *Sweeney Todd*, as well as a somewhat glum tribute to Keir Hardie. It has also meant a play about black soldiers, *Black Poppies*, and the Indian epic *Heer Ranjha*: recognition that the area is now 40 per cent Afro-Asian.

The Royal has been as successful at breaching racial barriers as any British theatre. The Posse's *Armed and Dangerous* recently drew audiences that were 90 per cent black. Yet Hedley knows there are still people of every hue who find even so informal a theatre intimidating. That is why his actors may sometimes be seen at the box-office, playing embarrassed ignoramuses ("what's a dress circle?") or nervously aggressive punters, for the benefit of the staff inside.

Joan Littlewood, now writing her memoirs in France, would approve. If she was bored with conventional actors, she was equally so with conventional audiences. When she looked up from her bucket and said she was "expecting company", she meant the world.





Top: Joan Littlewood pictured outside Stratford East in 1972. Above: Avis Bunnage (centre) with Judy Cornwell, Fanny Carby, Myvanwy Jenn and Mary Preston in Oh!, What A Lovely War

DANCE REVIEW

How to bring in the new

SPRINGBOARD, the new concert group launched by **Birmingham Royal Ballet**, is not a bad way of servicing smaller towns unable to host the full company. It leaves you wondering why the Royal Ballet has no similar scheme, especially as it has a strong marketing potential. It not only sets out to woo audiences in general, but by its programming in effect persuades them that one-act ballets are every bit as watchable as *Swan Lake* or *Romeo and Juliet*.

Eight dancers from Birmingham Royal Ballet have been sent out to work with schoolchildren in Stafford, Telford and Hereford. Each town gets them for one week, at the end of which the group performs a programme of "highlights from great British choreography of the 20th century". These are selected almost exclusively from short ballets by Frederick Ashton, Kenneth MacMillan, Ninette de Valois and David Bintley: the extracts intended to whet your appetite to try more.

In Stafford's Gatehouse Theatre Jane Billson gave a wonderfully forceful interpretation of the Black Queen's evil solo from De Valois's *Checkmate*, stabbing and twisting her feet into the ground like blades entering flesh. Andrea Tredinnick displayed her lovely arabesque line in a pas de deux from MacMillan's *Concerto*, supported by Mark Welford. Jillian Mackrill and Andrew Allen offered a slapdash account of the Tango from Ashton's *Façade*.

The one exception in the programme is Jennifer Jackson's *The Sum of the Parts*, a complete, specially-created piece which may not qualify as great British choreography, but achieves what it sets out to do. Neatly constructed, it links the five ballet positions of the feet with the development of ballet technique. Jackson cleverly rejects mere historical pastiche, preferring instead to permeate her own contemporary language with period resonances.

Timothy Sutton has contributed a useful piano score of minimalist tendencies, which he plays with Stephen Lade. Together, they also provide the accompaniment for the other items. The group's means are understandably modest. The limited programme notes, however, are less acceptable. Divorced from their contexts, the dances lose much of their meaning. So more written detail please, or failing that, the occasion verbal introduction.

NADINE MEISNER

MUSIC: **Stephen Pettitt** meets the busy, broad-minded Alban Berg Quartet

All take part as a full-time occupation

In one respect at least, the members of the Alban Berg Quartet are like those of most string quartets: easy to talk to, good humoured, amusing raconteurs, and thoroughly in love with the music they play.

Theirs is not a business for the vainglorious. When they were founded, in 1971, even in Vienna the business of string quartet playing was considered one for part-timers or amateurs. Even now, too many young quartets are obliged to fit in rehearsals between orchestral work.

This month, the Alban Berg Quartet's two recitals on London's South Bank (where they are associate artists) will be reinforced by EMI's issue of two new, live recordings. One includes two fairly recent pieces commissioned by and dedicated to them, the Fourth Quartets of Wolfgang Rihm and Alfred Schnittke. By contrast the other is the quartet's second recording of the complete Beethoven quartets, this one also taken from live performances, all given within the space of a few days in the Vienna Konzerthaus in 1989. With music ranging from Haydn and Schubert to Ravel and Lutoslawski featuring in their London concerts, the repertoire can be fairly described as broad-minded. But Gunter Pichler, the Berg's leader on stage and in conversation — he compensates for the shy cellist, Valentin Erben — seems initially uncomplimentary about the Rihm: "not a very pleasant piece".

Does the quartet actually enjoy playing it? "No. Perhaps it is enjoyable to listen to," Erben continues. "But like many of the new compositions it forces the instruments too much. The new generation want more loudness, more colours than you can expect from a string instrument."

In that case, as in Beethoven's day, surely instrument makers should be targeting their efforts towards making the instruments tolerate such extreme demands. Thomas Kakuska, the viola player, thinks not. "It is impossible to do in a natural way, because what the violin and cello can do is now at its limit. But it is no problem for the composer because he can use the amplifier." Gerhard Schulz, second violinist, agrees.

I wonder aloud if playing new music is merely a duty.



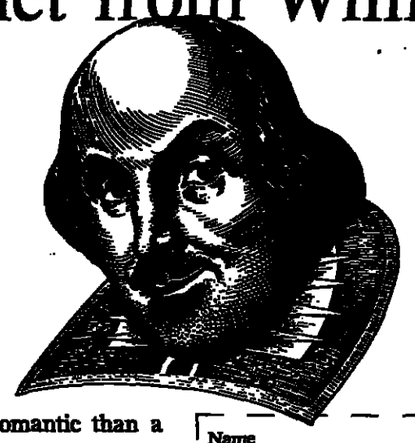
The Alban Berg Quartet: they are in love with the music they play

Again Pichler's frankness disarms: "I think the duty is sometimes greater than the passion. It is a pity that in this century most composers have not come to the point where they are loved by the audiences. Is it a fault of the composer or the audience? I do not know. But it is a fact. And that leads performers to concentrate more on classical and romantic music. But we have an obligation to play newer music also for the sake of classical music. Because if you only play from Haydn to Brahms you get tired, you lose the feeling for it. But if you are mixing with this some honest work on new music, you can go back to Schubert still feeling fresh about it."

Curiously only now, two decades into its existence (and the last 11 with the same people), is the Alban Berg Quartet embarking on recording Haydn, and they have neglected him in concert. Did coming back to him give them any revelations about quartet playing? Pichler says not: "For a young quartet it is important to play a lot of Haydn, like Mozart it is very clear. You discover everything which is not together, musically and technically. It teaches you about playing together, how to make decisions about how to play a theme, intonation, everything."

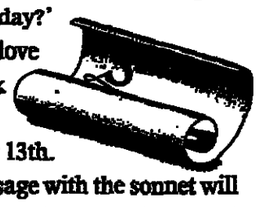
● *The Alban Berg Quartet is at the Queen Elizabeth Hall (071-928 8800) on Thursday and February 25*

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TELEVISION REVIEW

Charging the battery of customers' anger

John Maynard Keynes cheered us with the thought that "If you owe your bank £100 you have a problem, but if you owe it £1 million, *it* has." But he didn't warn us that when British banks lose billions from lending barmy amounts to Third World countries which never had any prospect of repaying, the banks then look to their domestic customers to cover their shortfall and shame.

The traditional explanation for this is that banking is a business and customers can no more expect free banking than free petrol, which skirts the fact that if banks were not so incompetent in their lending, there would be no huge deficits for British account holders to make good.

But this tired argument was reeled out again by Martin Karmel of the British Bankers Association in last night's **World In Action: Don't Bank On Us** (ITV). Karmel ignored the point that buying banking services differs from buying petrol, if only because banks profit from the money asleep in our current accounts. Also that banks should be making their money from the margin between borrowing and lending, not making customers pay for the bank's mistakes.

If this was the extent of bankers' idiocy, we might quietly dismiss inflated bank charges as a sort of charitable donation to those abroad who are poorer than ourselves. When banks compound the insult by overcharging and accidentally siphoning money out of our accounts without warning or alerting us, it is not surprising that many customers get mad as hell and refuse to take it any more.

Bob Seymour discovered that Lloyds Bank had charged him £17,000 more than they should have over two years. When Seymour pointed this out, the bank reimbursed him. But in the meantime Lloyds had been pressurising him to sell his house to clear his supposed debts. When Sally Gaudern's husband committed suicide, Midland Bank executed his will, realised £183,000 for his assets, but gave the Gauderns nothing for 27 months. The family had expected to net £70,000. After bank charges, lawyers' fees and estate agents, they pocketed just £17,000.

How is this possible? When *World In Action* investigated what made up "charges" on bank statements, it found customers were being charged £12.50 per phonecall to or from their bank and that a chat with the assistant manager was being billed at £52 an hour.

Gulp-inducing bank charges have given rise to computerised bank checking services. David Gold, who runs one, found that one in three of the accounts he checked was wrong: the errors averaged £7,000 to £10,000.

World In Action was looking for evidence rather than remedies. But one solution might be to kick out the current bank managers and install Gold's bilked customers at the head of Lloyds, Midland and the rest: if these people can stay financially afloat even when they are carrying an average handicap of £7,000 to £10,000, imagine how profitably they might run Britain's banks.

JOE JOSEPH

Border inconsolable after West Indies complete crushing victory

Bishop finishes off hapless Australia

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN PERTH

IN ALL his time as Australia's cricket captain, Allan Border has communicated as effectively through facial expressions as by any amount of words. Yesterday, in Perth, his face seemed suddenly to have aged.

It was not so much the fact of losing yet another series to West Indies, though that was painful enough. What dismayed Border so graphically was the manner of defeat, the hopeless and inglorious surrender which saw this final Test match end in utter anti-climax before lunch on the third day, with West Indies winning by an innings and 25 runs.

Even at the peak of their domination in the 1980s, West Indies were not accustomed to winning games before the scheduled midway point. But yesterday they became the first Test team to record victory before lunch on the third day since Australia beat New Zealand in less than two days in the first post-war Test in 1945-6.

As, only six days earlier, Border's men had been a mere two runs from taking the series, the grim and careworn façade of the captain could readily be forgiven.

Border walked unsmilingly from the ground after a presentation ceremony which had aptly summarised the series. There were three awards, for man of the match, man of the series and international cricketer of the year. Curtly Ambrose won the lot and, such has been his influence, there were no other plausible candidates.

As Ambrose climbed behind the wheel of his prize, a Range Rover, and prepared to take the entire squad on a lap of honour, Border was asked to measure his bowling against that of the great ones down the years. "If he is not the best I have ever faced, he is in the grand final," he said with feeling.

Border's eyes were wide with incomprehension at the way the series, his series, had been hijacked in its final week. "I wanted to beat these blokes, I've always wanted to beat them and this was definitely my last chance. But it just wasn't meant to be," he said. "We gave them the conditions they love, the bounciest, fastest wicket of the year. And we weren't up to it." With that, he was off for a talk with the match referee, Donald Carr, who was apparently considering umpiring reports of dissent by Border and Merv Hughes for the second time in the series. His findings are expected today.

Richie Richardson, Border's opposite number, identified the difference between the teams. "It's Curtly," he said. "He has been the main reason we have won."

No game is more perverse than cricket, so it was not surprising that Ambrose failed to take one of the six Australian wickets to fall yesterday morning. The session belonged to his new-ball partner Ian Bishop, who completed his best Test figures of six for 40. There was also a first Test wicket for the wiry Andy Cummins and one for the long-suffering Courtney Walsh.

Despite some gains from the tailenders' irrelevant flourish, Australia's match aggregate was 297 runs and they contrived to be bowled out twice within four sessions. On average, they lost a wicket every five overs.

Border began yesterday still needing 50 for the increasingly elusive Test run record. Out first ball in the first innings, he negotiated two balls from Bishop this time before he dragged the third into his leg stump.

It was the first time, in a career spanning 17 years, that Border has been dismissed for a "pair". It could not have happened on a more appropriate day.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 119 (C E L Ambrose 7 for 25).

Second innings

D C Boon b Bishop	52
J L Langer c sub (Logie) b Ambrose	1
S R Waugh c sub (Logie) b Bishop	0
M E Waugh c Richardson b Bishop	21
S K Warne c Murray b Ambrose	0
D R Martyn c Ambrose b Cummins	31
*A R Border b Bishop	0
†I A Healy c Murray b Bishop	27
M G Hughes c Murray b Walsh	22
J Angel not out	4
C J McDermott c Lara b Bishop	8
Extras (b 1, lb 6, nb 5)	12
Total	178

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-14, 3-66, 4-67, 5-95, 6-95, 7-130, 8-162, 9-170

BOWLING: Ambrose 21-8-54-2, Bishop 16-4-40-6; Walsh 12-2-46-1, Cummins 8-3-31-1.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 322 (P V Simmons 80, K L T Arthurton 77; M G Hughes 4 for 71).

Man of the match and player of the series: C E L Ambrose.

Umpires: S Randell and C Timmins.

PREVIOUS RESULTS: first Test: match drawn (Brisbane); second Test: Australia won by 139 runs (Melbourne), third Test: match drawn (Sydney), fourth Test: West Indies won by 1 run (Adelaide)

ICC looks likely to delay ruling on World Cup

BY IVO TENNANT

THE International Cricket Council (ICC) has a reputation for procrastination which today could be heightened. Its delegates, who are debating whether the next World Cup should be staged by England or by India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, might find themselves at an impasse which will not be resolved until the next ICC meeting in the summer.

The ICC's complex structure of voting means that for one of the bidders to be successful, a two-thirds majority is required of the nine full members, who have two votes each. This must include the vote of one of the two foundation members, Australia or the United Kingdom. The 19 associate members have one vote apiece.

The likelihood is that if, as expected, Zimbabwe sides with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the full members will vote 5-4 in favour of England. Hence, unless the associate members are granted power of decision, there will be another vote at the ICC meeting in July and much unseemly lobbying of the minor cricketing countries in the interim.

The Test and County Cricket Board has yet to try to exert any influence abroad, although it is aware it could probably have won the support of some of the associate members. Its concern is that the longer the delay on a decision over staging the competition, the less time there is to attract sponsorship.

If played in England, the World Cup will be staged from May 24 to June 17, 1995. If held on the India subcontinent, it will be in November of that year.

Given that the two bids are for £5 million, give or take a few pounds, money will not be an issue. The logistics, however, will be. The previous World Cup, in 1987, was staged in India and Pakistan and was generally reckoned to have been successfully managed. The involvement of Sri Lanka, though, would not only make the competition more expensive to run, but would greatly increase the amount of travelling for each team and its supporters. There could be difficulties, too, over television coverage in Sri Lanka.

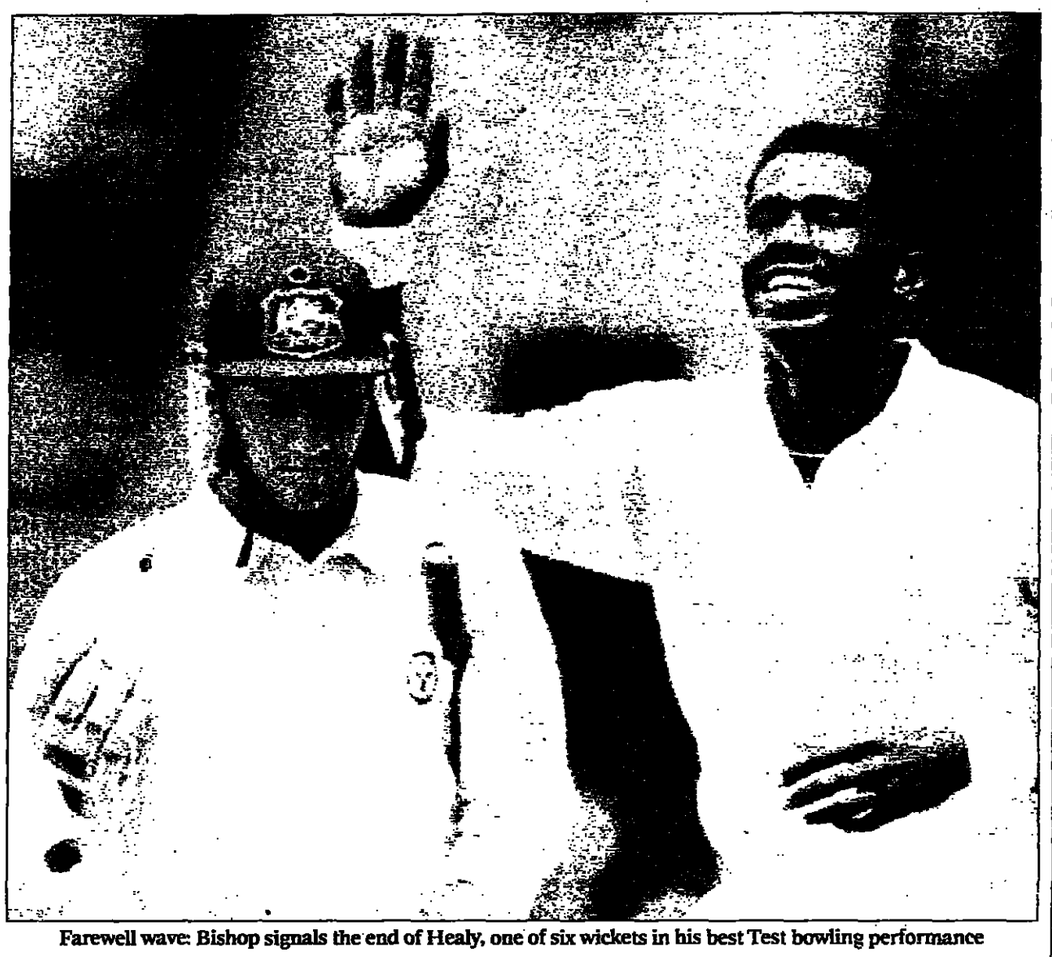
The argument put forward by the Third World countries is that England have staged three out of the five World Cups to date and the game needs promoting elsewhere. Since leading Pakistan to victory in the final at Melbourne last year, Imran Khan has become his country's emissary in cricketing diplomacy as well as tourism. If anyone can prove persuasive at Lord's today, it will surely be him.

Another concern is the political unrest on the subcontinent. In a different sense, that also applies to relations between the Indian and Pakistani boards of control. It is hard to see how the two countries can collaborate at a time when anti-Muslim feelings in India are running so high.

The ICC began its discussions informally at Lord's yesterday. Sir Colin Cowdrey, its chairman, is naturally keen to resolve the venue for the sixth World Cup today. Delegates will also decide today whether to appoint a chief executive, and will make a judgment on the validity of the century Graham Gooch scored in South Africa in 1982. If deemed first-class, it will mean he has scored 100 hundreds.



Imran: persuasive



Farewell wave: Bishop signals the end of Healy, one of six wickets in his best Test bowling performance

BOXING

Tucker will be no pushover for Lewis

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THERE was very little chance of Lennox Lewis being allowed to make the first defence of his World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight world title against an opponent of his own choosing. It was always going to be the No. 1 challenger, Tony Tucker, the candidate of Don King.

There had not been a mandatory defence of the WBC title for three years and King, who had lost his hold on the championship when Mike Tyson was beaten by James "Buster" Douglas in 1990, was too powerful a figure for the WBC to keep waiting any longer.

Lewis can expect a hard contest from the former International Boxing Federation champion, now 33. Tucker, one of only four men to have taken Tyson the distance, looked sharp when he boxed three exhibition rounds with three sparring partners last Saturday in Memphis. He has quick hands and moves smoothly and smartly round the ring, delivering sharp combinations. Particularly impressive was his right hand. He had broken it *before* his bout with Tyson in 1987, but has had "reconstructive surgery".

Tucker had dropped out of boxing for two years after the defeat by Tyson because of personal problems with his father, who had sold off 125 per cent of his son to various interests. But after joining King last year, the boxer has come under the influence of Richie Giachetti, the tough trainer, and recovered his will to win. Under King, Tucker has had five contests and won them all.

Giachetti said: "I've driven him. I've been mean to him. When he fights Lewis he won't see Lewis, he'll see me in there."

Tucker remains an amiable man outside the ring. "He's a good fighter, but too green," he said of Lewis.

In ten years of professional boxing Tucker has beaten 48 of his 50 opponents, knocking out 38 of them. His only defeat is by Tyson. But only two of his opponents have been top class: Tyson and Douglas, whom he stopped in 1987.

Lewis need have no fears about being able to take Tucker's punches. He has been unable to stop any of his better-known opponents. But the British champion should heed the message from the challenger: "Tell him to get in shape."

The Set-Up, page 34

SPORT IN BRIEF

Wigan given arduous task by cup draw

SHOULD Wigan go on to win rugby league's Silk Cut Challenge Cup for a sixth successive year, they will face no more arduous task than the home tie with St Helens which was handed them in the second-round draw last night.

Wigan suffered their heaviest defeat in 20 years when the teams last met, in December, losing 41-6. They beat St Helens in the 1988 and 1991 finals but trail their Lancashire rivals by six points at the top of the Stones Bitter championship.

In two all-first division ties, to be played on February 13 and 14, Wakefield Trinity meet Bradford Northern and Sheffield Eagles entertain Widnes. Castleford, last year's finalists, have a straightforward task at home to the third-division team, Hunslet, while Leeds play Rochdale Hornets.

Leigh have moved to plug the gaps left by Scott Mahon and John Elias by signing two more Australians, Dean Hanger and Troy Clarke.

SECOND ROUND DRAW: Hull Kingston Rovers v Keighley, Halifax v Batley, Oldham v Huddersfield, Wakefield Trinity v Bradford Northern, Leeds v Rochdale Hornets, Wigan v St Helens, Sheffield Eagles v Widnes; Castleford v Hunslet. Ties to be played on February 13 and 14.

Manchester bids

OLYMPIC GAMES: Manchester yesterday delivered its formal submission to host the 2000 Olympics — in a document made of environmentally-friendly materials. Bob Scott, the Manchester 2000 chairman, handed the document to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, Switzerland. Further support came yesterday when it was revealed that the prime minister, John Major, will meet the IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, in Lausanne this spring. Manchester joins six other cities, Peking, Berlin, Milan, Istanbul, Sydney and Brasilia, which have made bids. The IOC will choose the site on September 23. Steven Redgrave, the winner of three Olympic gold medals and three world championships in rowing, has been awarded a £6,000 grant from the Sports Aid Foundation.

Lillywhite hopeful

CYCLING: Chris Lillywhite, Britain's top city-centre rider last year, is one of more than a score of professionals still without a contract for 1993 and accepts that he may have his first race — the 14-day Tour of Mexico later this month — in a plain jersey. Lillywhite, a member of the dominant Banana team, is pinning his hopes on the sponsor returning this year. "Negotiations are going on with Keith Lambert, the squad's manager, who piloted us to so many successes in recent years, but no one has yet been offered the contract," Lillywhite said. Britain's team for Mexico, leaving on February 10, is: Chris Lillywhite, Neil Hoban, Tim Harris, Rob Holden, Paul Curran, John Charlesworth, Dave Williams and Tim Hall.

BBC tops ratings

SPORT ON TELEVISION: The BBC's exclusive coverage of the Grand National, Frank Bruno's bouts and particularly the Olympic Games dominated the top viewing figures for sport on British television in 1992. BARB-AGB, the official TV ratings organisation, yesterday recorded that BBC programmes had 18 of the leading 20 sports programmes. These included 12 from the Games in Barcelona, even when the opening and closing ceremonies, which both attracted more than 11 million viewers, were not tabled by BARB-AGB because they were not regarded as sports events. The Grand National, with its nine minutes of intense action, still topped the ratings with 16 million viewers.

Psn	Event	Channel	M
1	Grand National	BBC1	16.0
2	Boxing: Bruno v Ribalta	BBC1	13.8
3	Olympic women's 10,000m final	BBC1	13.6
4	Boxing: Eubank v Malinga	ITV	13.3
5	Olympic men's 100m final	BBC1	13.0
6	FA Cup final	BBC1	12.3
7	Olympic men's 4x400m relay final	BBC1	11.8
=8	Olympic Grandstand BBC1	BBC1	11.7
8	Olympic women's 4x400m relay final	BBC1	11.7
10	Olympic women's 1,500m final	BBC1	11.6
11	Boxing: Bruno v Coetzer	BBC1	11.4
12	Olympic men's 4x100m relay final	BBC1	11.2
=13	Olympic men's 1,500m final	BBC1	11.1
13	Olympic men's 5,000m final	BBC1	11.1
15	European football championship: England v Sweden	BBC1	11.0
16	Wimbledon men's singles final	BBC2	10.9
17	Olympic women's 100m final	BBC1	10.8
18	Olympic women's 3,000m	BBC1	10.6
19	Boxing: Eubank v Thornton	ITV	10.4
20	Olympic men's 800m final	BBC1	10.3

1992 TOP TELEVISION SPORTS AUDIENCES

POOLS FORECAST

GRIMSBY Town are on the march again after a lean spell and so are Charlton Athletic, their first division visitors on Saturday. Charlton, unbeaten in their last nine matches, can maintain the momentum by drawing at Grimsby, who are one place behind them. Grimsby are due for a score draw, having gone 13 games without one.

It would be wise to ignore the league table when considering Blackpool's chances against West Bromwich Albion. Although lying 21st, Blackpool are one of the second division's most improved teams and can take a home point off West Bromwich. Shrewsbury Town, of the third division, have not drawn at home all season but there is an excellent chance that they will do so against fellow promotion challengers, York City.

Saturday February 6 unless stated

COCA-COLA CUP
SEMI-FINAL, FIRST LEG
Not on coupons: Crystal Palace v Arsenal (Sunday)

PREMIER LEAGUE
1 Man Utd v Sheff Utd
X Middlesbro v Coventry
2 Wimbledon v Leeds
Not on coupons: Aston Villa v Ipswich; Liverpool v Nottingham Forest; Oldham v Chelsea; Queens Park Rangers v Manchester City; Sheffield Wednesday v Everton; Tottenham v Southampton (Sunday)

FIRST DIVISION
1 Bristol R v Oxford
1 Derby v Peterboro
X Grimsby v Charlton
1 Luton v Leicester
1 Notts Co v Birmingham
1 Portsmouth v Bristol C
2 Sunderland v Swindon
1 West Ham v Barnsley
1 Wolves v Brentford
Not on coupons: Cambridge v Tranmere; Millwall v Watford

SECOND DIVISION
X Blackpool v West Brom
X Bourn'm'th v Preston
1 Brighton v Leyton O
2 Chester v Bradford
X Fulham v Port Vale
2 Huddf'ld v Bolton
1 Plymouth v Mansfield
1 Reading v Hartlepool
1 Rotherham v Exeter
1 Stoke v Hull
Not on coupons: Stockport v Wigan (Friday); Swansea v Burnley (Friday)

THIRD DIVISION
1 Barnet v Chesterfield
1 Bury v Doncaster
2 Darlington v Cardiff
1 Lincoln v Colchester
2 North'pton v Gillingham
X Shrewsbury v York
X Torquay v Crewe
1 Walsall v Carlisle
Not on coupons: Halifax v Rochdale; Scarborough v Hereford

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE
2 Altrincham v Bath
2 Bromsgrove v Dagenham
1 Farnboro v Runcorn
1 Gateshead v Boston
X Northwich v Woking
1 Slough v Stalybridge
1 Stafford v Macclesf'd
2 Welling v Kettering
1 Wycombe v Kid'minster

HFS LOANS LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION
1 Accrington v Fleetwood
1 Barrow v Colwyn Bay
X Frickley v Leek
1 Gainsboro v Mossley
1 Hyde v Goole
1 Marine v Buxton
1 Southport v Matlock

BEAZER HOMES LGE
PREMIER DIVISION
2 Atherstone v Solihull
1 Chelmsford v Worcester
X Crawley v Burton
1 Dover v Dorchester
X Gloucester v Halesowen
2 Moor Green v Hastings

DIADORA LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION
1 Hendon v Staines
X Slevenaga v Chesham
1 Sutton v Yeading
2 Windsor v Carshalton
1 Wivenhoe v Bognor
X Wokingham v St Albans

SCOTTISH CUP
FOURTH ROUND
Not on coupons: Aberdeen v Dundee United (Sunday), Arbroath v East Fife; Ayr v Rangers; Cowdenbeath v Hibernian; East Stirling v Clydebank (Sunday); Falkirk v Celtic; Hearts v Dundee; Kilmarnock v St Johnstone

SCOTTISH PREMIER
Not on coupons: Motherwell v Airdrie

SCOTTISH FIRST
Not on coupons: Dumbarton v Raith, Meadowbank v Stirling; Morton v Dunfermline

SCOTTISH SECOND
Not on coupons: Alloa v Queen of the South; Clyde v Stranraer; Forfar v Albion; Queen's Park v Montrose

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Middlesbrough, Grimsby, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Fulham, Shrewsbury, Torquay, Northwich, Frickley, Gloucester, Stevenage, Wokingham.

BEST DRAWS: Grimsby, Blackpool, Shrewsbury, Torquay, Wokingham.

AWAYS: Leeds, Bradford, Bolton, Cardiff, Dagenham.

HOMES: Manchester United, Notts County, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Bury, Lincoln, Gateshead, Slough, Wycombe, Hyde, Dover, Wivenhoe.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Manchester United, Portsmouth, Gateshead, Wycombe, Dover. Aways: Cardiff, Dagenham, Carshalton. Draws: Blackpool, Shrewsbury, Torquay

☐ Vince Wright

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: First division: Leicester City Riders 102 (Waldron 37, Bogg 23), Oldham Celtics 97 (Fite 34, Henderson 31); London Towers 75 (P Scamblebury 22, Moore 22), Thames Valley Tigers 86 (L James 25, St Kitts 18); Sunderland Saints 75 (A Hopper 18, N Hopper 16), Proton Manchester Giants 78 (Craven 19, Lloyd 19).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Los Angeles Lakers 96, Boston Celtics 87.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York Knicks	25	15	.625	—
New Jersey Nets	24	19	.558	2½
Boston Celtics	22	21	.512	4½
Orlando Magic	18	19	.486	5½
Philadelphia 76ers	17	24	.415	8½
Miami Heat	13	27	.325	12
Washington Bullets	12	29	.293	13½

Central division

Chicago Bulls	28	15	.651	—
Cleveland Cavaliers	25	18	.581	3
Indiana Pacers	22	21	.512	6
Atlanta Hawks	21	21	.500	6½
Charlotte Hornets	20	20	.500	6½
Detroit Pistons	18	23	.452	8½
Milwaukee Bucks	17	24	.415	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah Jazz	27	14	.659	—
San Antonio Spurs	26	14	.650	½
Houston Rockets	24	18	.571	3½
Denver Nuggets	15	26	.366	12
Minnesota Timberwolves	8	30	.211	17½
Dallas Mavericks	3	36	.077	23

Pacific division

Phoenix Suns	31	8	.795	—
Portland Trail Blazers	28	12	.700	3½
Seattle SuperSonics	28	12	.700	3½
Los Angeles Clippers	22	20	.524	10½
Los Angeles Lakers	22	20	.524	10½
Golden State Warriors	20	22	.476	12½
Sacramento Kings	16	25	.390	16

BOBSLEIGH

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy: World Cup four-man event: 1, Britain I (M Tout, C Symmonds, C Rumboldt and L Paul), 1min 46.41sec; 2, Italy II, 1:46.69; 3, Canada I, 1:46.91.

BOWLS

EARLSWOOD: CIS Welsh IBA championships: Finals: Singles: J Price (Swansea) bt L Webley (Vale of Glamorgan), 21-20. Under-25 singles: D Harding (Cardiff) bt N Jones (Ogwr), 21-15. Pairs: S Rees and J Price (Swansea) bt D Kelly and B Relland (Torfaen), 21-15. Triples: Vale of Glamorgan (L Webley) bt Cardiff (J Davies), 18-17. Fours: Merthyr Tydfil (C Lewis) bt Cardiff (P Rowlands), 27-16.

CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: Brabazon Trophy: 1, C Bertschinger (Switz), 313.95 seconds total; 2, G Pitsch (Switz), 318.88; 3, R Tice (GB), 324.86; 4, M Pitsch (Switz), 325.65; 5, C Corsten (Ger), 330.02; 6, W Leuthold (Switz), 334.98. Other: 8, M Adams (GB), 339.24.

CRICKET

PORT-OF-SPAIN: Red Stripe Cup (four day): Trinidad and Tobago 220 and 193; Windward Islands 315 and 0 for 1.

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates: Sharjah Trophy one-day match: Pakistan 262 for 8 (Inzamam-ul-Haq 90); Zimbabwe 213 for 6 (G W Flower 57). Pakistan won by 49 runs.

CYCLING

COPENHAGEN: Six-day race (after third night): 1, D Clark (Aus) and A Doyle (GB), 140 points; 2, E de Wilde (Bel) and P Bincoletto (It), 140, one lap behind; 3, J Veggerby and R Soerensen (Den), 184; 4, U Freuler and K Betschart (Switz), 114; 5, P Carrara (Den) and Werner Stutz (Switz), 104.

FENCING

HENDON: British men's épée championship: Team: Polytechnic bt Reading, 9-3; equal 3, LTFC and Combined Services.

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Millwall 0, Crystal Palace 2; Charlton 4, Luton 0. Second division: Postponed: Torquay v Plymouth.

WORLD CUP: African zone qualifying group matches: Tunisia 3, Ethiopia 0; Ghana 1, Burundi 0; Ivory Coast 1, Niger 0; Egypt 3, Togo 0; Zambia 4, Namibia 0.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Cyprus 0, Poland 0.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Benfica 1, Tirsense 0, FC Porto 3, Belenenses 0; Boavista 0, Pacos da Ferreira 0; Gil Vicente 3, Beira Mar 0; Vitoria Guimaraes 2, CS Maritimo 2; Desportivo Chaves 5, Estoril 2; Sporting Lisbon 0, Salgueiros 1; Farenese 3, Famalicao 0, Esperino 0, Sporting Braga 1.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Group A: Corinthians 0, Santos 1; Guarani 4, Uniao Sao Joao 2; Ituano 2, Noroeste 2; Mamte 2, Ponte Preta 2; Mogi Mirim 1, Juventus 0, Rio Branco 3, Bragantino 1; XV de Piracicaba 0, Palmeiras 2. Group B: America-Sao Paulo 1, Olimpia 0; Botafogo-Ribersao Preto 0, XV de Jau 1; Catanduvense 0, Sao Caetano 2; Ferroviaria 2, Novarizontino 0; Internacional-Limeira 1, Taquaritinga 1; Santo Andre 2, Saocarlense 2; Sao Jose 1, Aracatuba 1.

CIS CHAMPIONS' CUP: Final: Spartak Moscow (Russ) 8, Minsk (Belarus) 0

WOMEN'S FA: Premier division: Arsenal 7, Maidstone Tigresses 0; Red Star Southampton 3, Bronte 1; Ipswich Town 0, Doncaster Belles 3, Knowsley United 4, Wimbledon 2; Millwall Lionesses 0, Stanton Rangers 2. First division north: Sheffield Wednesday 2, Cowgate Kestrels 1; St Helens 5, Villa Aztecs 2; Sunderland 4, Milton Keynes 0. First division south: District Line 4, Bristol Blackwell 0; Saltdean United 2, Hemel Hempstead 2.

GOLF

PHOENIX: Open tournament: Final scores (US unless stated): 273: L Janzen, 67, 65, 73, 68. 275: A Magee, 69, 70, 64, 72. 276: M Springer, 70, 69, 68, 69; R Wrenn, 66, 68, 68, 74; M Allen, 66, 70, 70, 70; K Triplett, 69, 67, 69, 71. 277: K Clearwater, 68, 72, 71, 66; M Wiebe, 67, 70, 70, 70. 278: G Morgan, 71, 65, 74, 68; T Lehman, 69, 68, 73, 70. 279: J Maggert, 66, 70, 73, 70; J Woodward, 67, 69, 72, 71; E Dougherty, 67, 69, 71, 72; G Hallberg, 70, 69, 67, 73; S Lowery, 69, 65, 70, 75. 280: C Beck, 68, 70, 73, 69; P Jacobsen, 70, 70, 71, 69; R Cochran, 69, 72, 70, 69; D Jackson, 69, 70, 71, 70; J Edwards, 70, 67, 72, 71; M O'Meara, 69, 70, 70, 71.

HOCKEY

HA YOUTH CUP: Dorset under-18 finals: Group matches: Canford 3, Clayesmore 0; Bryanston 2, Thomas Hardye 0, Clayesmore 1, Elizabeth College, Guernsey 0; Thomas Hardye 0, Sherborne 5; Elizabeth College 0, Canford 1; Sherborne 1, Bryanston 2. Final: Bryanston 1, Canford 4. Under-16 final: Canford 1, Bryanston 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): New Jersey Devils 2, St Louis Blues 2 (OT), Chicago Blackhawks 2, Los Angeles Kings 2; Calgary Flames 5, San Jose Sharks 4; Pittsburgh Penguins 2, Washington Capitals 2 (OT); Montreal Canadiens 8, Philadelphia Flyers 4; Edmonton Oilers 5, Buffalo Sabres 4 (OT).

WALES CONFERENCE

Patrick division

	W	L	D	Pts
Pittsburgh Penguins	34	14	5	73
Washington Capitals	25	21	6	56
New York Rangers	23	21	7	53
New Jersey Devils	24	22	4	52
New York Islanders	23	23	5	51
Philadelphia Flyers	18	27	7	43

Adams division

Montreal Canadiens	33	18	5	71
Quebec Nordiques	28	16	8	64
Boston Bruins	29	19	4	62
Buffalo Sabres	26	20	6	58
Hartford Whalers	14	34	4	32
Ottawa Senators	5	47	3	13

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

Norris division

	W	L	D	Pts
Chicago Blackhawks	31	17	8	70
Detroit Red Wings	28	20	6	62
Minnesota North Stars	26	18	8	60
Toronto Maple Leafs	24	20	7	55
St Louis Blues	22	23	7	51
Tampa Bay Lightning	17	33	3	37

Smythe division

Vancouver Canucks	29	14	8	66
Calgary Flames	27	19	6	60
Winnipeg Jets	25	22	5	55
Los Angeles Kings	24	21	6	54
Edmonton Oilers	18	27	8	44
San Jose Sharks	6	44	2	14

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell Bees 3, Whitley Warriors 5; Durham Wasps 3, Norwich and Peterborough Pirates 8, Fife Flyers 8, Billingham Bombers 5, Humberside Seahawks 3, Cardiff Devils 8, Murrayfield Racers 7, Nottingham Panthers 5. First division: Lee Valley Lions 2, Telford Tigers 15; Medway Bears 4, Swindon Wildcats 6, Romford Raiders 8, Slough Jets 9; Sheffield Steelers 5, Basingstoke Beavers 9.

TENNIS

BASINGSTOKE: LTA Reebok national tour: Mens: Final: D Sapsford (Surrey) bt A Richardson (Lincs), 6-3, 7-5.

AUCKLAND: Women's tournament: First round: E Reinach (SA) bt R White (US), 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, S Wasserman (Bel) bt B Fulco-Villella (Arg), 6-4, 6-3; C Fauche (Switz) bt C Tolealoa (NZ), 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, A Fusai (Fr) bt M Kochta (Ger), 6-3, 6-3.

DUBAI: Dubai Open: First round: K Novacek (Cz) bt Daniel Vacek (Cz), 6-0, 7-5, A Cherfaskov (Russia) bt M Schapers (Holl), 4-6, 7-6, 6-2; K Braasch (Ger) bt B Wuyts (Bel), 6-4, 6-2; J Cunha-Silva (Port) bt E Sanchez (Sp), 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; L Jonsson (Swe) bt C Pistolesi (It), 6-1, 1-0 ret. J Bates (GB) bt C Berstrom (Swe), 7-6, 6-1, C Mazzadri (Switz) bt T Wasken (US), 3-6, 7-6, 6-2; L Wahlgren (Swe) bt A Olhovsky (Russia), 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Reebok Liverpool City 3, Colonia Ealing 0; Newcastle Staffs 2, Tooting Aquila 3, KLEA Leeds 3, Wessex 0; Mizuno Mallory Lewisham 3, Speedwell Rucanor 0; Reebok Liverpool City 3, Wessex 1. Women: First division: Brianne Music Hackney 3, Dynamo London 0; Woolwich Bredon 3, Sale 1; KLEA Leeds 1, Ashcombe Dorking 3, Wessex 3; London Lynx 1.

RACKETS

ETON: Henderson British professional championship: Final: M Smith bt S Hazell, 15-0, 15-6, 15-14.

SNOOKER

NEWPORT: Regal Welsh Open: Final: K Doherty (Ire) bt A McManus (Scot), 9-7.

MOTOR RACING

DAYTONA, Florida: 24-hour race: 1, P J Jones, M Dismore and R Moran (US), Toyota, 688 laps (2,484.86 miles), 2, T Kendall, W Dallenbach, R Gordon and R Buhl (US), Ford, 688 laps; 3, M Martin, J Fergus, J Stevens (US), Ford, 688. Others: 5, J Weaver (GB), R Dyson (US) and P Cobb (US), Porsche, 655; 8, D Bell (GB), G Moretti (It) and J Paul Jnr (US) Nissan, 645.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

ORGULOUS
(b) Proud, haughty, from the Old French *orguillus*, modern *French orgueil pride*: *Troilus and Cressida*: "From Iles of Greece/ The Princes Orgulous, their high blood chaf'd,/Have to the Porte of Athens sent their shippes." "They are of high blood and full orgulous, and I have no liking for this match."

NAPPE
(a) A draught or pull, of obscure origin, cf. Norwegian *napp* a little tug or pull: 15th-century *Songs & Carols*: "He tok that maydyn by the pap,/ And tok thereof a right good nappe."

MEATUS
(a) A natural channel or tubular passage, from the Latin *meāre* to flow or run: "This Caspian hath some secret meatus or intercourse with some Sea." "Clay is of all others a curst Stepdame to almost all vegetation as having few or no Meatus's for the percolation of the alimental showers or expansion of the roots."

GIMMAL
(c) A finger-ring (rarely an ear-ring) so constructed as to admit of being divided into two (sometimes three) rings, an altered form of *gemel* from the Latin *gemellus* diminutive of *geminus* twin: Herrick: "Thou scut'st to me a true-love knot: but I Return'd a ring of jimmals." "We must be as a thread, or gimmal ring about their finger, to put them in mind of their sin."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Black's loose knight on h 4 provides the key: 1 Nf6! and neither 1 ... Ng2+ 2 Kf1 nor 1 ... Ng6 2 Bxg6 helps.

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Roberts on verge of joining shaikh

By George Rae

MICHAEL Roberts confirmed yesterday that he is likely to become Shaikh Mohammed's retained jockey.

"I have been approached about riding for Shaikh Mohammed and the chances are that I will accept." Roberts said from his farm in Durban. "Anthony Stroud [the Shaikh's racing manger] flew to South Africa today and I will be having discussions with him during the next few days.

"I cannot commit myself entirely just yet because I don't know the fine details, but unless there are complications in the contract then I will have no hesitation. Every jockey wants to ride the top horses."

Roberts, 38, became the leading contender for the vacancy after first Steve Cauthen, the Shaikh's retained jockey, failed to agree terms, and then Michael Kinane, the Irish champion, turned it down.

Eleven times champion jockey in South Africa, Roberts won his first British title last year with 206 winners from a record 1,068 rides. Only 26 of those rides were for Shaikh Mohammed, but Roberts has a proven track record for the Shaikh, having enjoyed great success on his outstanding filly, Indian Skimmer, in 1988.

"Becoming champion jockey was important to me and I would love to win the title again," he said. "But if I am riding for Shaikh Mohammed that would come first. If I am required to ride abroad then of course I would have to go."

Until the precise details of the offer are known, Roberts is unclear about how much time he might have to spend overseas.

One possibility which would reduce his commitments is that Thierry Jarnet, Andre Fabre's regular rider, would be associated with Shaikh Mohammed's burgeoning French interests.

However, he is perfectly placed to manage his domestic affairs. He already has a home in Newmarket, where many of Shaikh Mohammed's trainers are based, so there will no question of uprooting his family.

The prospect of a retainer has divided opinion among the bookmakers. Ladbrokes take the view that it would not help his cause and have eased him to 5-4 on favourite with Pat Eddery, the former champion, at evens. They then bet 25-1 bar the two.

Hills, however, prefer to see the positive aspects of the move, that it would guarantee Roberts a solid base of winners. They shortened Roberts to 7-4 on (from 11-8 on) and pushed Eddery out to 11-8 (from 11-10).

While Roberts considers his position, Cauthen has expressed an interest in riding in Hong Kong. "I like the lifestyle and I would go next season if the offer was right," he said.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: VIKING FLAGSHIP
(2.00 Nottingham)

Next best: High Padre
(3.30 Nottingham)



In demand: Roberts is likely to become Shaikh Mohammed's retained jockey

Mighty Mogul's surgery delayed

SURGERY on Mighty Mogul has been postponed while connections seek a second opinion. Several x-rays of the former Champion Hurdle favourite's off-fore leg have been sent to a vet in Lexington, Kentucky.

David Nicholson's stable star was due to undergo an operation yesterday to repair a fractured and chipped knee, sustained in the Wyko Hurdle at Cheltenham on Saturday.

But a stable spokesman said: "Plates have been sent to the United Stakes for a second opinion. He will now have the operation within the next 72 hours."

Halkopous, Mighty Mogul's short-lived successor at the head of the Champion Hurdle betting, is still in Ireland being tested after his dismal defeat at Leopardstown on Sunday.

"He returns on Thursday," Mark Tompkins, his trainer, said. "He's fine now and ate up overnight. It seems to have just been a bad run. I am still very hopeful about the Champion. Like Staunch Friend he will go straight there."

Coulton, the new Champion Hurdle favourite, could prepare for the festival in the City Trial Hurdle at Nottingham later this month, a race won last year by Royal Gait.

Several other Champion hopefuls, including Jinxy Jack, who beat Coulton at Haydock recently, Ruling and Valfinet are among the entries for the Agfa Hurdle at Sandown on Saturday.

On the Gold Cup front, Rushing Wild, the second favourite, will take his next step towards Cheltenham when he lines up for the Agfa Diamond Chase on the same programme. The former champion hunter chaser is one of 11 entered for the £30,000 contest.

Already an impressive course and distance winner in the Anthony Mildmay Peter Cazalet Chase, the Martin Pipe-trained chaser is likely to go straight for the festival after Saturday's race.

His principal rivals include Captain Dibble, Country Member, Mutare and Royal Athlete, who is now poised to switch to chasing following three outings over hurdles.

Pipe also challenges for the Tote Jackpot Hurdle with the progressive Grand Hawk, installed by the sponsors as 5-1 favourite. Trainglot is second best at 7-1 with Sillars Stalker a point longer.

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER

1.00 Mad Thyme. 1.30 Only A Rose. 2.00 GREEK FLUTTER (nap). 2.30 Top Javelin. 3.00 Marzocco. 3.30 Furry Knowe. 4.00 Son Of Iris. 4.30 Sheep Stealer.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.00 MAD THYME.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, SOFT IN PLACES (CHASE COURSE); SOFT, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES (HURDLES) SIS

1.00 CHARNWOOD MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,295: 2m 5f 110yd) (25 runners)

1 EXPLORATION 208F (M Rozenbroek) K Morgan 6-11-7 A S Smith –
2 0 GREY ILLUSIONS 13 (K Dars) C Popham 5-11-7 M A Fitzgerald –
3 5604/FP GUTE NACHT 56 (Mrs S Campion) S Campion 10-11-7 S Lyons (5) 68
4 3-3U HEATHVIEW 19 (J Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-7 M Dwyer –
5 2P KAUSAR 67 (BF) (Four Gentlemen) G Moore 6-11-7 A Maguire 85
6 00-U2 MAD THYME 46 (BF) (R Jenks) N Gaselee 6-11-7 M Perrett 88
7 20-05 MANOR RANGER 11 (J Curtis) J Curtis 7-11-7 G Bradley 84
8 60304/ MISTER HALF-CHANCE 754 (C Smith) M Pipe 7-11-7 J Lower –
9 0P MULBERRY HARBOUR 6 (B) (J de C Scott) C Trietline 5-11-7 D Bridgwater –
10 60/F4 PROVING 10 (Mrs J Spofier) J Gifford 9-11-7 E Murphy 80
11 3/64003 SAINTLY PATH 12 (S) (J Huddleston) W Reed 10-11-7 NON-RUNNER –
12 4/3-P03 SAND KING 10 (A Albright) J White 7-11-7 D Tegg 81
13 00 SHIREOAK'S FLYER 45 (D Edmunds) D Edmunds 5-11-7 R Davis (5) –
14 00 SQUIRES PRIVILEGE 85 (Anne Duchess of Westminster) J J O'Neill 5-11-7 R Dunwoody –
15 FP/F- SUNSHINE BLUES 288 (Mrs J Hewett) Mrs F Walwyn 10-11-7 B de Haan –
16 2- TARAMOSS 287 (H Paxton) J Edwards 6-11-7 N Williamson –
17 04P3- WALDORF T BEAGLE 335 (S Astaire) C Egerton 7-11-7 C Llewellyn 67
18 60526/ YASLOU 682 (M Al-Sabah) W Muir 6-11-7 I Lawrence –
19 0-0 GLEN LUSS 19 (Fiona Lady Arran) C Egerton 6-11-2 J Osborne –
20 5UFP/PP KEOM 45 (S Taberner) J Mackie 8-11-2 T Eley (5) –
21 KINGS DAWN (N Cecilich) G Fleming 5-11-2 S J O'Neill –
22 PP-44P2 POWER HAPPY 8 (Mrs S Nims) F Yardley 8-11-2 T Wall 82
23 0P- SOPHINI 295 (Mrs A Tomkinson) Mrs A Tomkinson 5-11-2 R Marley –
24 5406 ALTERNATION 25 (D Wade-Jones) J Webber 4-10-4 M Lynch 79
25 4400 TITIAN GIRL 11 (R Wilkinson) Miss L Siddall 4-10-4 R Beggan 80

BETTING: 7-4 Mad Thyme, 4-1 Proving, 9-2 Heathview, 13-2 Mister Half-Chance, 10-1 Kausar, 12-1 Taramoss, 16-1 Titian Girl, 20-1 others.

1992: MEETING ABANDONED - FROST

FORM FOCUS

HEATHERVIEW 8¾l 3rd of 8 to Easby Joker in a novice hurdle at Hexham (2m, heavy). KAUSAR 5l 2nd of 12 to Majed in novice hurdle at Ayr (2m, good to soft). MAD THYME 3l 2nd of 16 to improving novice Lord Relic in a novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). PROVING 39l 4th of 10 to Grand Hawk in a novice hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good to soft). SAND KING 30¾l 7th of 23 to Chuck Curley in a novice hurdle here (2m 4f, soft). POWER HAPPY 32l 4th of 9 to Anfussa Bay in a novice hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4f, heavy). ALTERNATION 8¼l 4th of 8 Nekogrey in a novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft) TITIAN GIRL 8¾l 4th of 12 to Liability Order in a hurdle at Catterick (2m, soft).
Selection: MAD THYME

1.30 BRADMORE CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,949: 2m) (15 runners)

1 22/23 MEL'S ROSE 11 (R Sabey) J Scargill 8-11-8 A Carroll 88
2 112-P0 EVER SMILE 12 (F) (D L'Estrange) M Pipe 6-11-6 J Lower 98
3 3106/0 TALAB 28 (D,F) (D Henley) R Bennett 8-11-6 W Elderfield –
4 MAJORITY HOLDING 150F (D Bailey) J White 8-11-5 D Tegg –
5 550630 THIN RED LINE 11F (V,D,S) (American Publishers Ltd) J Jenkins 9-11-5 R Dunwoody 81
6 33200-P JUST A MEMORY 71 (B,D,F) (A Sumner) C Trietline 7-11-3 T Eley (5) 69
7 P2003-P POLDER 8 (D,F) (Berkshire Commercial Components Ltd) D Williams 7-11-3 A Maguire 66
8 355F40 PEAK DISTRICT 6 (D,G,S) (B Neale) K Bridgwater 7-11-2 D Bridgwater 87
9 56P- STAR THYME 382 (R Mitchell) J Mackie 6-11-0 N Williamson –
10 NOTHING DOING 17F (BDRC Owners Group) W Musson 4-10-12 D Murphy –
11 11241 ONLY A ROSE 12 (D,G,S) (G Reed) C Thornton 4-10-12 D Wilkinson 88
12 153561- WHAT IF 300 (D,F,G,S) (B Culley) O Brennan 9-10-12 Helen Brennan 81
13 000-040 YANKEE FLYER 15 (D,S) (A Hill) Miss S Wilton 6-10-11 I Lawrence 66
14 00 BARGA 54 (Mrs A Burton) W Clay 4-10-5 Diane Clay –
15 0 HINTON LADY 10 (M Soames) C Egerton 4-10-5 J Osborne –

BETTING: 4-6 Only A Rose, 9-2 Mel's Rose, 15-2 Ever Smile, 14-1 Nothing Doing, 16-1 Peak District, Thin Red Line, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MEL'S ROSE 1¾l 3rd of 12 to Coraco in a novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, soft). EVER SMILE 3½l 2nd of 5 to Frosty Reception in a handicap hurdle at Exeter on final start last term (2m 1f, firm). THIN RED LINE 39l last of 7 to Badrakhani in a handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft). PEAK DISTRICT 12¾l 4th of 10 to Northern Nation in a handicap hurdle at Southwell on penultimate start (AW, 2m, standard). ONLY A ROSE beat Milfyel 15l in a 5-runner claiming hurdle at Ayr (2m, soft). WHAT IF beat Andreiot 6l in a 19-runner selling hurdle at Ludlow (2m, soft), with JUST A MEMORY tailed off 15th.
Selection: ONLY A ROSE

2.00 KINGSTON NOVICES CHASE (£2,464: 2m) (6 runners)

1 13/5122 GREEK FLUTTER 17 (D,G,S) (J Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-10 M Dwyer 88
2 61045-4 BIBENDUM 10 (D,G) (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 7-11-6 M Lynch –
3 600-PP6 BUSTONIAN 28 (R Turvey) C Popham 7-11-6 W McFarland –
4 F431/ NOBLE BEN 673 (D,G) (Eurotact Petrochemical Supplies Ltd) K Bailey 9-11-6 A Tory –
5 10F433- VIKING FLAGSHIP 304 (D,F,S) (Roach Foods Ltd) D Nicholson 6-11-6 R Dunwoody –
6 P34/231- BARRICA 404 (D,F) (A Albright) D Nicholson 6-11-1 C Llewellyn –

BETTING: 10-11 Greek Flutter, 11-4 Viking Flagship, 9-2 Barrica, 7-1 Bibendum, 12-1 Noble Ben, 20-1 Bustonian.

FORM FOCUS

GREEK FLUTTER 12l 2nd of 6 to Dawson City in the grade II Dipper Novices' Chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft). BIBENDUM 17l 4th of 10 to Tomahawk in a handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, soft). Makes chasing debut. NOBLE BEN beat Mercury Moon 12l in a 10-runner novice handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter in April 1991 (3m, good). Makes chasing debut. VIKING FLAGSHIP 13¾l 3rd of 27 to Dusty Miller in the grade III County Handicap Hurdle Cheltenham on penultimate start last season (2m, good). Makes chasing debut.
Selection: GREEK FLUTTER

2.30 NOTTINGHAM GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £3,517: 2m 5f 110yd) (21 runners)

1 223F46 PETTY BRIDGE 21 (D,F,G,S) (C Bouston) A James 9-11-12 R Bellamy 91
2 24P/F62 JUDGES FANCY 17 (G,S) (J de C Scott) C Trietline 9-11-12 D Bridgwater 94
3 1200-00 PACTOLUS 87 (F,G,S) (J Holmes) S Christian 10-11-10 D Leahy (5) 89
4 0523/41 MIDLAND GLENN 17 (D,F,G,S) (J Eyre) J Eyre 9-11-6 A Mulholland 95
5 /1052/F JIMBALOU 66 (F,G,S) (M Dawes) R Brazington 10-11-6 R Beggan –
6 125-3 BEAN KING 38 (G) (J Stone) N Henderson 7-11-2 R Dunwoody 93
7 61P- TAROUDANT 319F (D,G) (G Farndon) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 R Hodge 88
8 230133 TOP JAVALIN 36 (BF,S) (Mrs J Relph) D Barons 6-10-11 J Frost 94
9 652405 NINEOFUS 3 (F,G) (F Wilson) M H Easterby 7-10-11 R Marley 98
10 0625P-P MONTAGNARD 10 (CD,S) (N Gill) M Bradstock 9-10-10 G Bradley 93
11 401/5P-2 TRUTH BE TOLD 11 (S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 9-10-9 D Murphy 97
12 32F4/04 LEAVENWORTH 7 (G) (A Gardiner-Hill) Mrs J Retter 9-10-7 M A Fitzgerald 92
13 13F0-41 AMBLESIDE HARVEST 12 (S) (G & P Barker Ltd) J J O'Neill 6-10-2 M Dwyer 88
14 14-4232 VITAL WITNESS 17 (S) (H Blenkhorn) K Morgan 6-10-1 A S Smith 96
15 361244- COUTURE STOCKINGS 252 (CD,F,G) (Couture Ltd) J Mackie 9-10-0 N Williamson 97
16 R2-200P LAFKADIO 10 (D,F) (R Papworth) M Chapman 6-10-0 W Worthington 85
17 411613 FURRY BABY 56 (C,BF,G,S) (K Hanson) M Avison 6-10-0 A Maguire 92
18 33/3431 ANDREW'S FIRST 45 (CD,S) (J Hancock) M Wilkinson 6-10-0 M Lynch 89
19 F3-2464 TV PITCH 25 (F) (D Lee) D Lee 5-10-0 G Tormey (7) 87
20 16P-3P6 PALANQUIN 18 (B,F,S) (R Fairs) W Reed 11-10-0 D Bentley (5) 80
21 36260 CIRCUIT RING 6 (Mrs P Wharfe) T Caldwell 7-10-0 Pat Caldwell 73

Long handicap: Couture Stockings 9-12, Lafkadio 9-11, Furry Baby 9-9, Andrew's First 9-7, TV Pitch 9-2, Palanquin 6-3, Circuit Ring 7-3.

BETTING: 5-1 Truth Be Told, 11-2 Ambleside Harvest, 7-1 Andrew's First, 8-1 Bean King, 10-1 Midland Glenn, Top Javelin, 12-1 Leavenworth, Vital Witness, 14-1 Nineofus, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MIDLAND GLENN beat VITAL WITNESS (2lb better off) a neck in a 9-runner handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (3m, soft). BEAN KING 12l 3rd of 12 to Djebel Prince in a handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, heavy). TOP JAVALIN ¾l 3rd of 7 to Sayyure in a handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, good to soft). TRUTH BE TOLD head 2nd of 14 to Early Man in a handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft). LEAVENWORTH 8¾l 4th of 7 to Grenagh in a handicap hurdle at Chepstow (3m, soft). AMBLESIDE HARVEST beat The Green Fool 8l in a 7-runner handicap hurdle at Ayr last time out (2m 4f, soft). COUTURE STOCKINGS 22l 4th of 9 to Churchtown in a handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter on final start last season (3m, good to firm). ANDREW'S FIRST beat VITAL WITNESS (11lb better off) 10l in a 10-runner handicap over course and distance (soft).
Selection: AMBLESIDE HARVEST

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.00 PLUMTREE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,484: 2m) (16 runners)

1 5660/11 PERSIAN SWORD 10 (D,S) (P Hepworth) D Nicholson 7-11-10 R Dunwoody 88
2 315 COMSTOCK 19 (D,G) (Dale (Bloodstock) Ltd) N Tinkler 6-11-8 D Murphy 85
3 0422 STATE OF AFFAIRS 12 (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 6-11-4 R Beggan 98
4 F43444 THIS NETTLE DANGER 7 (Lady Anne Bentinck) O Brennan 9-10-13 S J O'Neill 91
5 000-301 MARZOCCO 27 (D,S) (C Steward) J Fitch-Heyes 5-10-13 A Maguire 88
6 440-605 FASTBIT 10 (Classical Enterprises Ltd) C Jackson 6-10-12 W Humphreys 87
7 124 QUALITAIR MEMORY 12 (D,S) (Jackett & Holdsock) J Akehurst 4-10-11 J McCarthy (7) 91
8 P/00-442 SOLO CORNET 10 (D,G,S) (W Farrell) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-11 M Dwyer 94
9 026450- HIGHLANE LAD 295 (L Cross) T Donnelly 9-10-9 T Eley (5) 85
10 0-4P0 ALDINGTON MILLPOND 12 (Exors of the late C Wheatley) C Trietline 5-10-7 D Bridgwater 87
11 243241 LOXLEY RANGE 10 (V,D,S) (Miss C Brennan) O Brennan 5-10-7 Helen Brennan 91
12 5-4683 KYTTON CASTLE 12 (Joint Partnership) R Dickin 6-10-3 D Meredith (5) 96
13 6P24-06 GIN AND ORANGE 14 (P Walker) J Jenkins 7-10-3 J Osborne 80
14 000 DRY TIME 56 (S Wright) M H Easterby 5-10-0 R Marley –
15 P0/0-P0 OPEN SESAME 36 (White City All Stars C C) M Bradstock 7-10-0 M Perrett –
16 505 EXPANSIONIST 19 (O Soberg-Olsen) Mrs J Ramsden 4-10-0 M A Fitzgerald –

Long handicap: Open Sesame 9-11, Expansionist 9-8.

BETTING: 5-2 Persian Sword, 7-2 Solo Cornet, 4-1 Marzocco, 6-1 Qualitair Memory, State Of Affairs, 8-1 Comstock, 14-1 Loxley Range, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

PERSIAN SWORD beat Black Joker 10l in a 10-runner novice handicap chase at Warwick (2m, heavy), with FASTBIT (10lb better off) 21l 5th. COMSTOCK beat Timanfaya 2l in a 9-runner novice hurdle at Edinburgh (2m, good). STATE OF AFFAIRS 1½l 2nd of 13 to The Minder in a novice handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, soft), with KYTTON CASTLE (2lb better off) 2l 3rd. MARZOCCO beat Strong John ½l in a 14-runner maiden hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy), with GIN AND ORANGE (10lb better off) 44l 10th. QUALITAIR MEMORY beat Reel Of Tulloch 20l in a 9-runner conditional jockeys' selling hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft). SOLO CORNET 7l 2nd of 16 to Irish Dilty in a novice handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, soft). LOXLEY RANGE beat Vaigly Mason ¾l in a 19-runner selling handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, soft).
Selection: STATE OF AFFAIRS

3.30 GOTHAM HANDICAP CHASE (£3,012: 3m 110yd) (15 runners)

1 F2UPU4 MWEENISH 8 (D,G,S) (R Hall) J Webber 11-11-13 M Perrett 98
2 3BF-425 MOUNTEBOR 15 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Turpin) P Haslam 9-11-3 D Bentley (5) 94
3 3221-24 FURRY KNOWE 96 (BF,F) (Queen Elizabeth) Mrs F Walwyn 8-11-3 B de Haan 90
4 5-05UPP BEAU CHARM 19 (B,S) (Ultimate Racing Ltd) J Gifford 9-10-13 P Hide (5) 89
5 212-065 EBONY SWELL 45 (CD,G,S) (S Campion) S Campion 12-10-12 R Beggan 98
6 F13353 MISS FERN 11 (D,F,G,S) (Phipps, Duane & Co) R Dickin 8-10-9 D Meredith (5) 88
7 4P1-31F HIGH PADRE 63 (D,B,S) (J Murdoch) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-8 M Dwyer 88
8 UUBR0-4 KNOX'S CORNER 17 (D,G,S) (C Colquhoun) R Curtis 8-10-6 D Morris –
9 32PP/5P CLASSEY BOY 25 (D,S) (A Kaplan) G Ham 10-10-3 M A Fitzgerald –
10 60432P WHY SO HASTY 10 (D,F,S) (W Fraser) M Chapman 12-10-3 Mr M Chapman (7) 97
11 PP/00P OUR FELLOW 15 (S) (Miss M Kalaji) G Balding 11-10-3 A Maguire –
12 1/UPPF LITTLE GENERAL 15 (D,F) (L Robinson) R Rowe 10-10-0 R Dunwoody –
13 3PP650 DRY GIN 5 (D,F,S) (T Satchell) M Chapman 10-10-0 W Worthington 82
14 6304/PP EXTRA GRAND 24 (B) (J Stone) O Sherwood 7-10-0 J Osborne –
15 U23P-6P WOODLANDS GENHIRE 57 (Miss M Prance) P Pritchard 8-10-0 R Davis (5) 83

Long handicap: Dry Gin 9-10, Extra Grand 9-8, Woodlands Genhire 9-5.

BETTING: 5-4 High Padre, 3-1 Mweenish, 5-1 Miss Fern, 10-1 Furry Knowe, 14-1 Why So Hasty, 20-1 Beau Charm, 25-1 Classey Boy, 33-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

MWEENISH 24l 4th of 13 to Beresfords Girl in a handicap chase at Leicester (3m, soft). MOUNTEBOR 10l 2nd of 5 to Merano in a handicap chase at Newcastle on penultimate start (3m, heavy). FURRY KNOWE neck 2nd of 5 to Sibton Abbey in a handicap chase at Worcester on penultimate start (2m 4f 110yd, good). MISS FERN 27l 3rd of 7 to Cache Fleur in a conditional jockeys' handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good to soft). HIGH PADRE beat Ridwan 6l in 10-runner novice chase at Wetherby on penultimate start (3m 110yd, good to soft). WHY SO HASTY ½l 2nd of 5 to Bonanza in a handicap chase at Market Rasen on penultimate start (3m, heavy), with KNOX'S CORNER (same terms) a poor 4th.
Selection: FURRY KNOWE (nap)

4.00 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: £1,939: 2m) (20 runners)

1 1 MR PICKPOCKET 25 (D,S) (Mrs J Foster) J Akehurst 5-12-0 J McCarthy (7) –
2 15 NAVAL BATTLE 59 (D,S) (P Deal) J King 6-12-0 D Leahy (5) –
3 DISTANT MILL (R Smith) R Dickin 5-11-7 D Meredith (5) –
4 FROG HOLLOW (Mrs A Reid Scott) T Forster 5-11-7 R Farrant (5) –
5 HECTOR'S RETURN (Miss V Hill) R Brotherton 5-11-7 V Slattery (5) –
6 MISTER CUMBERS (D Surdin) Miss L Plater 6-11-7 S Lyons (5) –
7 0-4 NEWHALL PRINCE 45 (B Trebshaw) J Smith 5-11-7 T Eley (5) –
8 0 NIYAKA 13 (Mrs G Rees) J H Wilson 6-11-7 Mrs G Rees –
9 2 OTTOMAN EMPIRE 52 (Lady Anne Bentinck) O Brennan 6-11-7 J Driscoll (7) –
10 SON OF IRIS (MHG Systems) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-7 R Hodge –
11 TARGET MISSILE (Target Express Parcels Ltd) D McCain 6-11-7 Mr D McCain (5) –
12 0 JUST MOLLY 25 (P Norton) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-2 W Dwan (5) –
13 2/2- THE QUIET GENIUS 480 (G Knowles) M Hammond 6-11-2 D Bentley (5) –
14 VULCAN BELLE (Mrs D Holloway) B Rothwell 6-11-2 G Cahill (7) –
15 FAR VIEW (H Hodge) H Hodge 4-10-11 S Curran (7) –
16 0 GER OFF 3 (F Gibson) F Gibson 4-10-11 N Bentley (3) –
17 MAC'S BOY (Mrs M Palling) B Palling 4-10-11 R Davis (5) –
18 OVERLORD (D Deer) W Muir 4-10-11 Mr J Durkan –
19 40 PRIVATE JET 13 (G Pasquill) J Fitch-Heyes 4-10-11 M Hourigan (3) –
20 P ARTHURLILY 29 (Mrs A Broad) C Broad 4-10-6 A Flannigan (7) –

BETTING: 5-2 Mr Pickpocket, 3-1 Son Of Iris, 9-2 Naval Battle, 13-2 Ottoman Empire, 10-1 Frog Hollow, 12-1 The Quiet Genius, 16-1 others.

4.30 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £1,939: 2m) (20 runners)

1 1- SHEEP STEALER 372 (The Kilroe Group Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-12-0 G Tormey (7) –
2 BILDESTON (T Pryke) K Morgan 5-11-7 J McCarthy (7) –
3 6 CALLYR 25 (M Davies) R Brazington 6-11-7 D Meredith (5) –
4 0 CANCALE 13 (A Staple) C Popham 5-11-7 M Hourigan (3) –
5 0 CATCHA THIEF 13 (Mrs V Hickman) Mrs V Hickman 5-11-7 Mr A Farrant (5) –
6 60 CRANK SHAFT 13 (C McNulty) F Yardley 6-11-7 R Davis (5) –
7 DE JORDAAN (J Wilmington) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-7 R Hodge –
8 20- FLY GUARD 365 (BF) (Miss J Brook) D Barons 6-11-7 NON-RUNNER –
9 2 INDIAN RIVER 73 (P O'Sullevan) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-7 W Dwan (5) –
10 0 LAZZARETTO 13 (Mel P Bailey) J H Wilson 5-11-7 D Walsh (5) –
11 MASTER SACHA (R McCadden) D McCain 5-11-7 Mr D McCain (5) –
12 0 MR FUDGE 52 (P Stoner) O Brennan 6-11-7 J Driscoll (7) –
13 MITRE (D Davies) G Jones 5-11-7 Miss H McCaull –
14 SCOBIE BOY (R Shaw) C Egerton 5-11-7 A Procter (5) –
15 30 SWAHILI RUN 25 (Gallagher Enterprises Ltd) M Pipe 5-11-7 D Richmond (5) –
16 BELL STAFFBOY (K Bell & Son Ltd) C Broad 4-10-11 A Flannigan (7) –
17 DOCTOR DUNKLIN (Mrs A Norton) S Norton 4-10-11 D Bentley (5) –
18 ROMAN ROMANY (D Martin-Betts) J Gifford 4-10-11 P Hide (5) –
19 5 AUNT ADA 29 (G Rickman) R Rowe 4-10-6 L Dace (7) –
20 MALTESE FLAME (Miss D Hornbuckle) A Forte 4-10-6 D Salter (7) –

BETTING: 15-8 Indian River, 3-1 Sheep Stealer, 5-1 De Jordaan, 6-1 Swahili Run, 7-1 Roman Romany, 10-1 Aunt Ada, 12-1 Scobie Boy, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Gifford	3	7	42.9	R Dunwoody	13	72	18.1
M Avison	3	8	37.5	R Beggan	8	45	17.8
N Henderson	11	30	36.7	J Osborne	7	40	17.5
G Ham	4	12	33.3	C Llewellyn	4	24	16.7
M Pipe	12	46	26.1	M Dwyer	9	61	14.8
Mrs M Reveley	6	24	25.0	D Murphy	4	32	12.5

Wetherby draws The Red One

POINT-TO-POINT
BY BRIAN BEEL

THE Red One will step up to hunter chases following his win in the open at the Cambridge Harriers on Saturday. He looked to be back to his old self when, under Stephen Swiers, he beat the favourite, Carl's Choice, in the open.

He holds an engagement in the Rydale Hunters' Chase at Wetherby on Saturday and, provided he has come out of last weekend's race well, he is a probable runner. Once again his principal objective will be the Foxhunter Chase at the Cheltenham festival next month.

A measure of his performance can be gauged from his winning time, which was five seconds faster than that of Mountain Crash, who carried 21lb less in the Taittinger ladies' qualifier.

Also bound for hunter chases is Johnny Greenall's Overheard, an impressive winner of the second division of the restricted race.

Bought for his owner by the late Arthur Stephenson and qualified with the South Durham, Overheard was intended to remain in the north but moved to Caroline Saunders's stable with other Greenall horses on the death of the trainer.

In the BMW qualifier, Rymster was cruising behind the eventual winner, Shimshek, when he fell at the fifteenth. Shimshek, ridden by Simon Cowell, came home clear of Easy Over.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Plumpton

Going: soft (heavy in places)

1.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Edge Of The Glen (T Thompson, 33-1); 2, Masroug (11-2); 3, King Of Normandy (7-4 fav). 7 ran. 1l, 3l. R Hodges. Tote: £13.60; £3.70, £2.50. DF: £55.60. CSF: £172.49.

2.15 (2m 5f ch) 1, Heyfleet (B de Haan, 16-1); 2, Norman Conqueror (11-4 fav); 3, Sirrah Jay (8-1). 6 ran. 12l, 5l. Mrs J Pitman. Tote: £14.50; £3.60, £1.70. DF: £19.70. CSF: £54.10.

2.45 (2m ch) 1, Fred Splendid (R Dunwoody, 4-1); 2, Kisu Kali (2-1); 3, Up-A-Point (11-8 fav). 5 ran. 10l, 5l. R Hodges. Tote: £4.80; £1.60, £1.60. DF: £5.40. CSF: £11.69.

3.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Kabayil (J Osborne, 11-8 fav); 2, My Senor (7-2); 3, Precious Wonder (6-1). 7 ran. 6l, 12l. C Egerton. Tote: £2.60; £2.00, £1.60. DF: £4.50. CSF: £6.47.

3.45 (2m ch) 1, Rocket Launcher (P Holley, 6-4); 2, Nathir (15-8); 3, Kitty Butler (20-1). 9 ran. 12l, 12l. D Elsworth. Tote: £2.40; £1.40, £1.30, £3.80. DF: £2.60. CSF: £4.30.

4.15 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Early Man (Peter Hobbs, 11-10 fav; Thunderer's nap); 2, Sharpgun (12-1); 3, Joker Jack (16-1). 11 ran. 10l, 1l. D Grissell. Tote: £1.80; £1.30, £2.40, £1.90. DF: £10.40. CSF: £14.31. Tricast: £127.97.

Placepot: £223.60.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.00 (1m) 1, Sirtelimar (J McLaughlin, 11-2); 2, Buddy's Friend (5-2 fav); 3, Watch Me Go (12-1). 10 ran. 1¾l, nk. R Spicer. Tote: £10.40; £2.80, £1.50, £2.30. DF: £15.70. CSF: £19.63. Tricast: £149.74.

2.30 (6f) 1, Pine Ridge Lad (Dean McKeown, 11-8 fav); 2, Jordywrath (7-1); 3, Deaniera (5-2). 6 ran. NR: Paris By Night. 3l, 2½l. M Johnston. Tote: £1.70; £1.30, £2.20. DF: £5.00. CSF: £9.28. Paris By Night (12-1) was withdrawn not under orders - Rule 4 applies to all bets deduct 5p in pound.

3.00 (2m) 1, Kovalevskia (G Bardwell, 6-1); 2, Etiquette (6-1); 3, Moot Point (6-1). Bedouin Prince 5-2 fav. 10 ran. 3l, 5l. D Wilson. Tote: £4.70; £2.10, £1.90, £2.40. DF: £13.50. CSF: £38.24. Tricast: £204.13.

3.30 (1m) 1, Digger Doyle (F Norton, 4-1); 2, Juvenara (15-8); 3, Buzbour (7-4 fav). 8 ran. NR: Northern Rainbow. 6l, 10l. C Allen. Tote: £4.50; £1.50, £1.20, £1.20. DF: £9.70. CSF: £12.34.

4.00 (7f) 1, Dorazine (D Biggs, 10-11 fav); 2, Personimus (7-1); 3, Express Mariecuris (14-1). 6 ran. 4l, 1½l. C Hill. Tote: £2.20; £1.30, £2.90. DF: £9.30. CSF: £7.69.

4.30 (1m 4f) 1, Horizon (D Biggs, 7-2); 2, Qualitair Rhythm (6-1); 3, Sword Master (5-2 fav). 9 ran. 2l, hd. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £4.60; £1.80, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £10.60. CSF: £23.67. Tricast: £56.12.

Placepot: £48.10.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.10 Loon. 1.40 Red Ink. 2.10 Falcon Flight. 2.40 Olveston. 3.10 Crown Baladee. 3.40 Absent Relative. 4.10 Blakeway.

GOING: STANDARD SIS

1.10 QUEBEC MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £1,719: 2m) (11 runners)

1 04/6 BABY ALEX 13 I Balding 9-11-6 S Earle
2 P0- FLUIDITY 393 E Buckley 5-11-6 R Greene (3)
3 0/3- IN THE ZONE 481 W Wightman 8-11-6 M Richards
4 /P0/ JAY JAY'S VOYAGE 640 Mrs J Scrivens 10-11-6 Peter Hobbs
5 0043 LOON 7 J Joseph 5-11-6 D Skyrme
6 2-F4 PHILIP'S WOODY 27 N Henderson 5-11-6 J Kavanagh
7 0P3 RISING TEMPO 12 B Baugh 5-11-6 N Mann
8 P0 ALERT THE BOYS 12 R Hodges 4-10-10 W Irvine
9 0 GERBANS BAY 32 Mrs P Dutfield 4-10-10 N Dawe
10 G3 SIMPLY GEORGE 110 J White 4-10-10 B Clifford (3)
11 FP0 STORM RISK 7 J Tuck 4-10-10 S McNeill

Evens Philip's Woody, 4-1 Simply George, 5-1 In The Zone, 7-1 Rising Tempo, 8-1 Loon, 20-1 others.

1.40 QUEBEC MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £1,719: 2m) (11)

1 5-46 NIDOMI 43 G Enright 6-11-6 A Bates (7)
2 0-53 RED BEAN 12 J O'Donoghue 5-11-6 A Dicken (5)
3 00P- TAUNTING 3F M Blanshard 5-11-6 D Gallagher
4 PP02 THE PRUSSIAN 7 K Wingrove 7-11-6 J Lodder
5 -600 BALMY BREEZE 43 W Wightman 6-11-1 M Richards
6 2002 CLIPPER ONE 7 K Cunningham-Brown 5-11-1 D O'Sullivan (3)
7 F0P2 NEARLY HONEST 12 R Hodges 5-11-1 W Irvine
8 P SWALLOWFIELD 8 D Welsh 8-11-1 Mr A Welsh
9 25P4 CHEEKA 7 C Smith 4-10-10 M Ranger
10 02 RED INK 12 J Jenkins 4-10-10 M Ahern
11 P00 SHARDRA 80 M Barraclough 4-10-5 S McNeill

3-1 The Prussian, 7-2 Clipper One, 9-2 Cheeka, 7-1 Red Ink, 8-1 Red Bean, 10-1 Nearly Honest, 12-1 Nidomi, 14-1 Balmy Breeze, 20-1 others.

2.10 NEWFOUNDLAND CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,675: 2m 2f) (6)

1 12-1 FALCON FLIGHT 5F (C,F,G) R Simpson 7-11-12 D Gallagher
2 234- VA LUTE 258 (D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 9-11-8 R Greene (3)
3 5-05 FOREST FAWN 43 (B,G,S) E Wheeler 8-11-3 J White
4 -064 OLD PEG 13 (B,F) R Manning 5-11-3 J Puffin (7)
5 350P FIGHTING CHRISTINE 13 R Juckes 6-10-13 N Juckes (7)
6 2054 PLEASE PLEASE ME 7 (F) K Cunningham-Brown 5-10-13 D O'Sullivan (3)

11-10 Va Lute, 2-1 Falcon Flight, 6-1 Old Peg, 10-1 Fighting Christine, 12-1 Please Please Me, 20-1 Forest Fawn.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Thomson Jones, 10 winners from 27 runners, 37.0%; Miss B Sanders, 22 from 68, 32.4%; J Jenkins, 17 from 76, 22.4%; J White, 10 from 45, 22.2%; E Wheeler, 3 from 17, 17.6%; K Cunningham-Brown, 4 from 29, 13.8%.

JOCKEYS: A Bates, 6 winners from 11 rides, 54.5%; A Dicken, 17 from 44, 38.6%; S Smith Eccles, 8 from 26, 30.8%; J White, 4 from 14, 28.6%, H Davies, 15 from 54, 27.8%; S Donohoe, 5 from 21, 23.8%.

2.40 MANITOBA HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,749: 2m) (4)

1 22-F MONDAY CLUB 46 (D,F,G) J Tuck 9-12-0 S McNeill
2 P-13 OLVESTON 12 (D,F,B,S) P Nicholls 9-11-9 R Greene (3)
3 1300 SAFETY 17F (B,CD,BF,F) J White 6-11-1 D Skyrme
4 2655 KALZARI 19 (D,G) D Deacon 8-10-0 W Marston (3)

11-10 Olveston, 9-4 Safety, 7-2 Monday Club, 8-1 Kalzari.

3.10 BRITISH COLUMBIA NOVICES HURDLE (£1,601: 2m 4f) (5)

1 0421 CROWN BALADEE 12 (CD) M Usher 6-11-12 H Davies
2 5F51 FORGE 7 (C) K Cunningham-Brown 5-11-12 D O'Sullivan (3)
3 -021 RABA RIBA 7 (C) J Spearing 8-11-12 W Marston (3)
4 P451 VOMERO 7 (CD) P Nicholls 8-11-7 R Greene (3)
5 FPPP LUCK MONEY 26 R Mathew 7-11-6 Mr K Bradley (7)

11-8 Raba Riba, 15-8 Crown Baladee, 5-2 Vomero, 12-1 Forge, 33-1 Luck Money.

3.40 ONTARIO HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,689: 2m 4f) (12)

1 3142 ABSENT RELATIVE 12 (C,BF,G) Miss B Sanders 5-12-0 S Smith Eccles
2 P/P0 GALLEY BAY 36 (G) Mrs P Dutfield 7-10-9 P Holley
3 1P/P DECIDEDLY DUTCH 7 Miss Gay Kelleway 6-10-8 M Pitman
4 8004 CAROMANDOO 20 (G,S) A Barrow 5-10-6 S Burrough
5 1-00 PANATHINAIKOS 21 (CD) G Ham 8-10-6 M Richards
6 /2/U DUART 54 (S) Mrs J Scrivens 13-10-5 Peter Hobbs
7 3005 HARD TO GET 74 (B,B) M Barraclough 6-10-0 Ann Stokell
8 30U3 ALBURY GREY 12 (F) P McEntee 6-10-0 D Gallagher
9 P-00 JARRWAH 28 (CD) J Spearing 5-10-0 A Webb
10 06F3 DECIDING BID 7 (F,G) Mrs M Long 7-10-0 Leesa Long (7)
11 0004 LEGAL WIN 12 (B,F) M Usher 5-10-0 N Mann
12 /000 WICKFIELD LAD 13 D Deacon 10-10-0 W Marston (3)

5-2 Absent Relative, 3-1 Caromandoo, 9-2 Panathinaikos, 7-1 Hard To Get, 10-1 Jarrwah, 12-1 Deciding Bid, 16-1 Albury Grey & Legal Win, 25-1 others.

4.10 ALBERTA NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,590: 2m) (10)

1 0-1 THE MINE CAPTAIN 21 F O'Mahony 6-11-12 P Moore (7)
2 KAFUBA R Flower 5-11-5 Mr R Teal
3 5 KING'S MAVERICK 29 T Thomson Jones 5-11-5 D Geoghegan (5)
4 MARDEF 8 Byford 5-11-5 P Smith Eccles (7)
5 00 NORDIC FLIGHT 32 (V) R Eddey 5-11-5 W Marston (3)
6 BLAKEWAY P Nicholls 6-11-0 S Donohoe (5)
7 0 KEMMY DARLING 10 M Muggeridge 6-11-0 R Darke (7)
8 DANISH DITTY M Banks 4-10-9 W Ayles (7)
9 TELMAR SYSTEMS K Ivory 4-10-9 R Greene (3)
10 0 WRIST WATCH 29 T Jones 4-10-9 T Descombe (7)

13-8 King's Maverick, 2-1 The Mine Captain, 5-1 Blakeway, 10-1 Telmar Systems, 12-1 Danish Ditty, 14-1 others.

Danny Harrold retired

THE smart steeplechaser Danny Harrold has been retired due to a recurrence of a blood vessel problem. The decision was made after the nine-year-old bled when pulled up in the Great Yorkshire Chase at Doncaster on Saturday.

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER

1.50 Master Of The Rock. 2.20 Babcock Boy. 2.50 Tresidder. 3.20 Bow Handy Man. 3.50 No More Trix. 4.20 Badastan.

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.50 JOHN WADE HAULAGE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,836: 2m 1f 110yd) (17)

1 6431 LEADING ROLE 8 (C,D,F,G,S) A Harrison 9-12-2 (6ex) S Taylor (7)
2 1164 BATTLE STANDARD 10 (D,F,S) Mrs S Bramall 6-12-0 J Burke (7)
3 -53F5 MOWTHORPE 46 (C,F,G) M W Easterby 8-11-13 P Johnson (7)
4 0020 DAMART 10 (F,G,S) Miss L Siddall 9-11-7 D J Moffatt (5)
5 0 OUR MAN IN HAVANA 20 Mrs A Swinbank 4-11-4 Mark Roberts (7)
6 P200 FACILITY LETTER 10 (F,G) G Moore 6-11-2 C Grant
7 -040 BOY PAINTER 10 (F,S) J Johnson 10-10-11 T Reed
8 50/ CAETANI 543F M W Easterby 9-10-10 R Garritty
9 2103 MASTER OF THE ROCK 10 (V,D,BF,S) Mrs P Barker 4-10-8 G McCourt
10 -326 ENKINDLE 10 B Murray 6-10-8 P Niven
11 100 CLEAN SINGER 18 (G) N Bycroft 4-10-5 D Byrne
12 432/ AUGUST 1223 (C,F) J Fort 12-10-4 P Waggott (7)
13 40F0 CHERYLS PET 5 P Burgoyne 5-10-3 K Harbard (7)
14 -4003 DOLLY PRICES 6 W Smith 8-10-2 D Barry (7)
15 /P00 ANFIELD SALLY 6 Mrs P Barker 7-10-0 S Turner
16 0150 STATION EXPRESS 13 (CD,G) B Ellison 5 10-0 A Orkney
17 5001 MY LINDIANNE 8 (S) J Dooler 6-10-0 Mr S Walker (7)

9-2 Mowthorpe, 5-1 Master Of The Rock, 11-2 Leading Role, 6-1 Battle Standard, 8-1 Enkindle, Dolly Prices, 9-1 Damart, 10-1 Cheryls Pet, 16-1 others.

2.20 BOYSTON GROVE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,484: 3m 3f 110yd) (4)

1 3-10 BABCOCK BOY 53 (F,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-2 P Niven
2 0-40 BISHOP'S TIPPLE 17 T Carr 7-10-10 A Orkney
3 -204 DEEP CALL 15 T Tate 6-10-10 G McCourt
4 50P0 NOTARIUS 25 J Wade 5-10-10 C Grant

11-10 Babcock Boy, 5-4 Deep Call, 11-2 Bishop's Tipple, 33-1 Notarius.

2.50 MAINSFORTH HANDICAP CHASE (£2,820: 2m 1f) (8)

1 4206 BOUTZDAROFF 7 (BF,F,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-12-0 D Byrne
2 421F MAUDLINS CROSS 52 (CD,BF,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-10-10 P Niven
3 1142 MEGA BLUE 17 (D,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 8-10-5 C Woodall (7)
4 5636 TRESIDDER 25 (C,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 11-10-4 R Garritty
5 U1P5 ANY GOSSIP 8 (G) J O'Neill 10-10-4 James Jones (3)
6 12-F STAGS FELL 6 (C,F,G) G Moore 8-10-0 C Grant
7 3PU1 FROZEN MINSTREL 10 (F,S) J Johnson 9-10-0 T Reed
8 F421 SONSIE MO 25 (C,F,G) Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-0 P Williams (7)

4-1 Frozen Minstrel, 9-2 Boutzdaroff, Maudlins Cross, 11-2 Stags Fell, 6-1 Sonsie Mo, 13-2 Tresidder, 7-1 Mega Blue, 14-1 Any Gossip.

3.20 RAMSIDE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,716: 3m 3f) (5)

1 1218 REGAL ESTATE 58 (CD,BF,G,S) R Earnshaw 9-12-0 P Niven
2 31P- SHEPHERD'S HYMN 290 (C,F,G,S) Mrs V Aconley 12-11-8 P Midgley (5)
3 6P31 VIVA BELLA 15 (B,S) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-6 J Burke (7)
4 2133 BOW HANDY MAN 11 (C,G,S) Denys Smith 11-11-5 P Waggott (7)
5 5P65 ABBENOIR 6 (G,S) Mrs M Kendall 11-10-9 Mrs M Kendall

7-4 Regal Estate, 9-4 Viva Bella, 7-2 Bow Handy Man, 6-1 Shepherd's Hymn, 14-1 Abbenoir

3.50 HETTON NOVICES CHASE (£2,717: 2m 5f) (13)

1 32F0 HIRAM B BIRDBATH 20 (B,F,G) J Glover 7-11-10 P Waggott (7)
2 2412 ON TAP 76 (F,S) M H Easterby 9-11-10 R Garritty
3 01UU STARMINE 6 (S) J Parkes 7-11-10 L O'Hara
4 0532 CLONROCHE DRILLER 15 Mrs S Bramall 8-11-4 Mr S Brisby
5 00/ DOWN THE ROAD 604 J Johnson 6-11-4 A Orkney
6 -000 EQUATOR 12 (S) J Haldane 10-11-4 N Leach (7)
7 20-2 HOUGHTON 60 (B,BF,G,S) M W Easterby 7-11-4 C Grant
8 /342 HUTNER 17 (BF,G) M Dods 8-11-4 A Merrigan
9 PP/ LIVE AND LET LIVE 1732 R Tate 9-11-4 C Dennis (3)
10 6/3U NO MORE TRIX 11 (S) T Tate 7-11-4 G McCourt
11 2533 REEF LARK 3 (F,S) D McCune 8-11-4 K Johnson
12 F346 ROYAL INVADER 12 (S) M Dods 9-11-4 B Storey
13 -6P0 FEELING ROSEY 11 (G,S) D Todd 11-10-13 K Jones

13-8 Houghton, 3-1 No More Trix, 5-1 On Tap, 8-1 Hutner, 10-1 others.

4.20 PETERLEE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,484: 2m 5f 110yd) (16)

1 3-15 CHIEF RAIDER 36 (BF,G) P Cheesbrough 5-11-10 C Grant
2 P-U0 BREAK THE HABIT 17 T Gibson 6-11-4 J Supple (7)
3 542- HUMMANBY GAP 253 P Beaumont 8-11-4 R Garritty
4 JUKE BOX BILLY J Johnson 5-11-4 A Larnach (5)
5 F- LATOUR 11F Mrs A Swinbank 5-11-4 C Dennis (3)
6 34F MR SNIPE 45 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-4 P Niven
7 -242 SKIRCOAT GREEN 26 P Beaumont 8-11-4 C Hawkins
8 P0 STRATHBOGIE MIST 11 J Parkes 5-11-4 K Johnson
9 0 SYD GREEN 19 R Fisher 5-11-4 S Turner
10 65 BRIDGE PLAYER 15 D Moffatt 6-10-13 D J Moffatt (5)
11 452 BADASTAN 18 T Tate 4-10-7 G McCourt
12 00 KINDA GROOVY 11 I Park 4-10-7 L O'Hara
13 60 OVER THE ODDS 122 J Wade 4-10-7 K Jones
14 306 PRIOR CONVICTION 75 G Moore 4-10-7 A Orkney
15 2020 SPLIT SECOND 84 (BF) Mrs V Aconley 4-10-7 C Woodall (7)
16 2 SERAPHIM 19 T Barron 4-10-2 B Storey

15-8 Chief Raider, 9-2 Badastan, 5-1 Seraphim, 13-2 Skircoat Green, 7-1 Split Second, 8-1 Mr Snipe, 10-1 Bridge Player, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Tate, 5 winners from 14 runners, 35.7%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 17 from 55, 30.9%; Mrs M Reveley, 51 from 176, 29.0%; M H Easterby, 24 from 93, 25.8%; J J O'Neill, 10 from 49, 20.4%; G Moore, 26 from 139, 18.7%.

JOCKEYS: P Niven, 52 winners from 213 rides, 24.4%; G McCourt, 6 from 26, 23.1%; C Grant, 45 from 205, 22.0%; D Byrne, 12 from 57, 21.1%; R Garritty, 14 from 90, 15.6%; P Midgley, 9 from 63, 14.3%.

Blazing Walker returns

BLAZING Walker is poised to make his comeback in the Marston Moor Handicap Chase at Wetherby on Saturday. The nine-year-old, absent for almost two years through injury, will carry top weight and appears to face a stiff task first time out in a race that has also attracted Deep Sensation, Feroda, Kings Fountain, Ryde Again and Wingspan.

Hodges lands 169-1 double

RON Hodges, the Somerset trainer, completed a 169-1 double at Plumpton yesterday with Edge Of The Glen and Fred Splendid.

Edge Of The Glen, making his debut over hurdles, had only ever beaten two horses in his three-race Flat career. He was sent off at 33-1 but, well ridden by Tim Thompson, he snatched the Poynings Conditional Jockeys' Selling Hurdle.

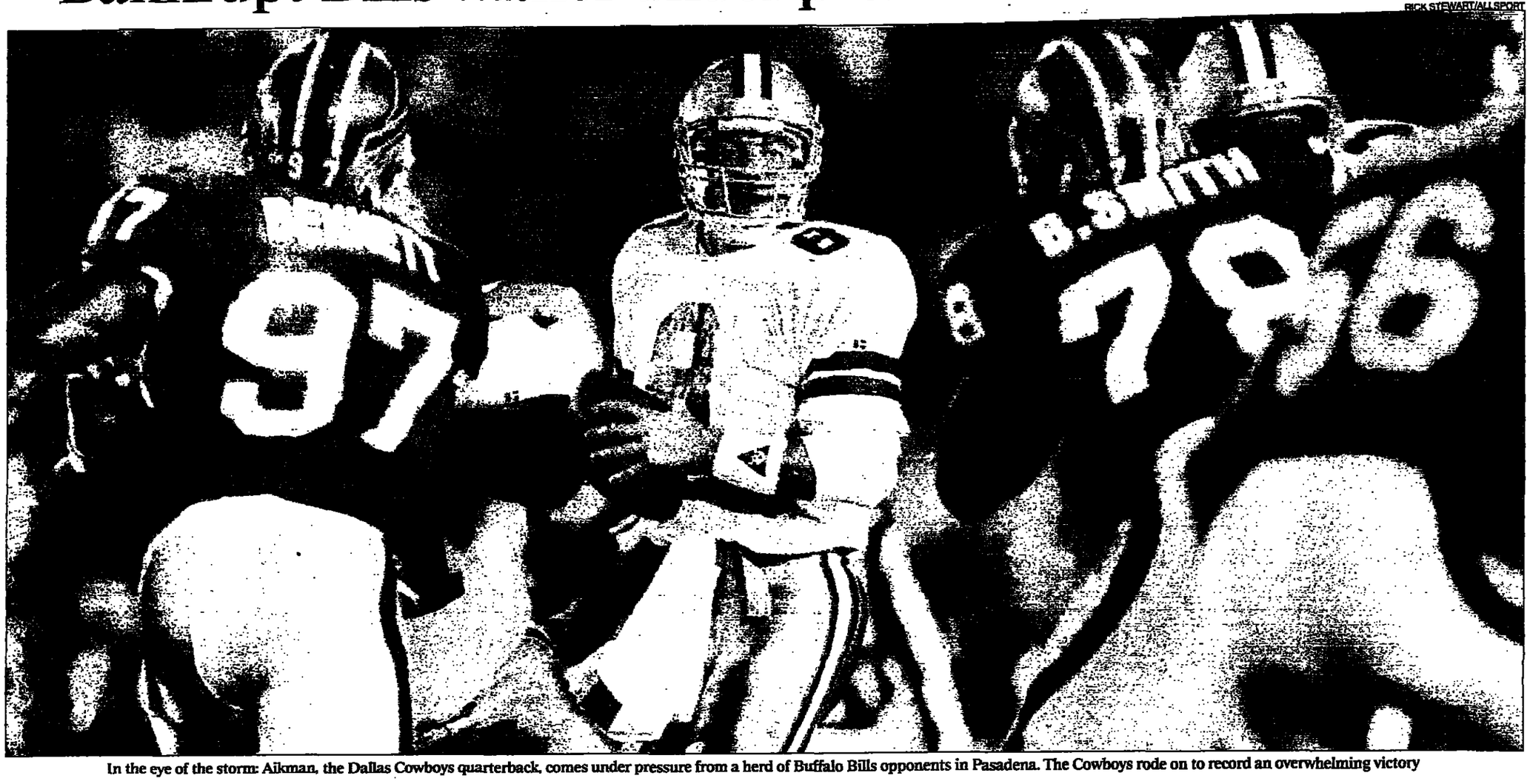
Fred Splendid had not won in 21 outings before Richard Dunwoody won on him last time at Newton Abbot. Dunwoody again made the difference, landing the Albourne Handicap Chase.

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Bankrupt Bills wither under pressure of final demands

RICK STEWART/ALLSPORT



In the eye of the storm: Aikman, the Dallas Cowboys quarterback, comes under pressure from a herd of Buffalo Bills opponents in Pasadena. The Cowboys rode on to record an overwhelming victory

SIMON BARNES AT SUPERBOWL XXVII

I blame the Xmas Syndrome myself. Once again, we have the classic Super Bowl blow-out. Dallas Cowboys beat Buffalo Bills 52-17 in Pasadena on Sunday, a scoreline of toe-curling embarrassment. The Bills conceded a ludicrous nine turnovers — a professional football team just doesn't do that. Two in a match is normally considered a disaster.

It was a Super Bowl record, inevitably — but Super Bowl records have always told tales of embarrassments and humiliations, rather than triumph and high achievement. The way the event is structured, that is always likely to be the case.

The point is, you see, that the Super Bowl is structured *exactly like Xmas, and therefore* inevitably the event suffers from the Xmas Syndrome. Let me explain.

Xmas and Christmas must never be confused. Christmas is a Christian festival that lasts between Christmas Eve and Epiphany, the Twelfth Day of Christmas. Xmas is *the hysterical six-week anticipation* of brief secular feast that simply cannot stand the weight of anticipation. It is the perfect recipe for anti-climax, if not far worse.

The Super Bowl is the same thing. It is quite different from the American football season, which is rather good fun in an appalling sort of way. But once the two contestants for the Super Bowl have been decided, the whole thing seems to spiral out of control.

The coming game is discussed in acres of print, hours of broadcast, gallon upon gallon of beer. The media feeds on, rather than creates, the national obsession. The Super Bowl is the Cup Final, the Grand National, the *Lord's Test and the Boat* Race all rolled into one: a party, a fabulous treat, a long-lost friend, an expression of nationhood.

The anticipation is so great that the game itself cannot possibly live up to it. The losing side seldom cracks; it crumbles to dust. It grovels, *as Tony Greig would say.* Year after year, the game degenerates to a final quarter that is a sad procession of meaningless plays, following each other as time grudgingly ticks away, at last to release the losers and the viewers from an aching torment of embarrassment. The weight of anticipation is too much for the people involved. The natural rhythm of an annual sporting occasion has been sacrificed to frenzied anticipation: victim of the Xmas Syndrome.

You could destroy any occasion — from the Lord's Test match to a religious festival — if the same crazed anticipation could be drummed up for it. The feast becomes the *anticipation, rather than the* thing itself: a feast of promises. We eat the air, promise-crammed. For the truth is, this was almost a close match. It was only the fact that it was the Super Bowl stopped it being so.

Dallas might well have lost. Certainly, they began looking like losers. They gave away the first touchdown after a blocked punt: blocked punts are strictly for losers. They conceded a series of penalties. It seemed that discipline was going, that nerves were being shredded.

But then the Bills cracked up. They did so in slow motion, right before our eyes. First, their quarterback, Jim Kelly — one of the finest quarterbacks to play the game — threw an interception. Troy Aikman, at 26 six years younger than wily old Kelly, then drew level by throwing an emphatic touchdown pass to Novacek. Then a very odd thing happened. The Bills responded, Kelly took the ball near his line and went to throw, the ball flopped loose, Jones caught it and walked in for a touchdown.

Even then, Buffalo might have come back. They got within four points with a field goal, and before that they should have drawn level. Dallas worked long and hard for another touchdown, but even then, you felt Buffalo could recover. Instead, bowed down by the weight of of the day, they threw the game away.

The Dallas running back, Thurman Thomas, one of the game's top men, somehow managed to fumble. Great players tend to save such disasters for Super Bowls. Jones recovered once again, and on the next play, Aikman threw the ball to Irvin for another touchdown. There was no coming back from there.

It was half-time, a plastic doll called Michael Jackson did his stuff, and really, that was about it, so far as football went. The game went down the plughole. It was won and lost before Jacko appeared. At the Super Bowl, it ain't over till the thin gentleman sings. Unfortunately, the thin gentleman sings at half-time.

Aikman won the Most Valuable Player award: it almost always goes to the winning quarterback. "Early on the team was a little uptight," he confessed. "Then we started clicking." Or, more accurately, Buffalo started falling apart. Emmitt Smith, the Cowboys' running back, said he was surprised at how easy it all was. "We didn't know what to expect, and I thought it would be a tough ball game," he said.

Really, it should have been a tough ball game. But once you start to lose a Super Bowl, everything starts to go wrong. Players crack, players dither, players fumble. Good things — the things that took them to the Great Game — desert the side in droves. Sense flies out of the window.

A simple, all-out winner-takes-all ball game is something any professional player relishes. But the Super Bowl goes beyond such simple sporting parameters. Xmas Day is always a hysterical let-down for those who have spent those long weeks obsessively anticipating it: the same holds good for the Super Bowl.

It is the nature of sport to place huge artifical pressures on individuals to perform some basically meaningless feat at an impossible level of ability. That is the source of much of sport's fascination: Linford Christie winning the 100 metres, Graeme Hick facing Chrtly Ambrose, Chris Waddle taking a World Cup penalty, and on and on. The fascination comes from seeing whether the athlete will be broken — or inspired.

The pressure on the Super Bowl participants is so intense that players hardly ever rise to it. The losers tend to fall away from usual standards, while the winners cling to competence. Competence feeds on incompetence, until in a certain light it looks like genius. But once *I* saw a losing Super Bowl player seize a game by the throat: as fine a chunk of sport as I have seen. That was Joe Montana in 1989. But you need a person as rare as Montana to take the pressures of the Super Bowl, to stare into the impending victory of his opponents, and to find in that horrifying sight both inspiration and triumph.

I expect to see another Super Bowl like Montana's in the same year that every participant in the feast has a truly Happy Xmas. Super Bowl? Bah. Humbug.

RUGBY UNION

Australia avoid cup rivals

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

TO WIN the 1991 Rugby World Cup, Australia had to fight their way past New Zealand in the semi-final and England in the final. However, the draw for the 1995 tournament means they will not have to do so again if the seedings prove accurate, though they could face two games against South Africa, the hosts, before reaching the final.

Seeding on the basis of form in 1991 is a fraught enough exercise anyway, but, on the assumption that Australia sustain their standing, they face the prospect of a quarter-final against Scotland or France and a semi-final against either of those countries or South Africa — against whom they open the tournament in the pool match in Cape Town.

In the bottom half of the draw, the seedings suggest a semi-final between New Zealand and England, after the possibility of a quarter-final between the All Blacks and what has been described cynically as New Zealand's second XV, Western Samoa.

Meanwhile, Rugby World Cup's inaugural sevens tournament, to be held at Murrayfield in April, took further shape yesterday with the announcement of the French squad led by Thierry Janaczek, the Tarbes flanker, and including three bright young Toulouse players, Christophe Deylaud, David Berty and Henre Mola.

France, who play Scotland in the five nations' championship in Paris on Saturday, will wait with interest to see who turns up to play loose-head prop for the Scots after the unfortunate withdrawal of Alan Watt through illness.

The decision is due tomorrow which gives little enough time for the newcomer to adjust to his rapid promotion.

Grant Wilson, of Boroughmuir, has worked as much as anyone with the Scottish squad and indeed replaced Watt during the A international against Ireland in December.

Peter Jones, of Gloucester, played against the Italians earlier that month, while there remains the possibility that Paul Burnell could be switched from tight-head and Peter Wright, of Boroughmuir, included.

FRENCH SEVENS SQUAD: E Bonneval (Racing Club), D Berty (Toulouse), C Deylaud (Toulouse), P Bernat-Salles (Pau), H Mola (Toulouse), S Filali (Brive), T Janaczak (Tarbe), L Cabannes (Racing Club), D Faugeron (Brive), D Dal Pos (Colomiers).

Officials discuss Jones vote

HIGH-RANKING British officials will discuss the future of Malcolm Jones, the chief executive of the British Athletic Federation (BAF) this weekend (David Powell writes). At stake is not only Jones's position but that of several members of the BAF's management board.

If the BAF council fails on Sunday to endorse the management board's recent vote of no confidence in Jones, board members who voted against him may feel they have to resign. However, it is unclear which of the two bodies is the higher authority on the question of dismissing the chief executive. The management board has called an emergency meeting for Saturday and the council meets on Sunday.

FOOTBALL

Sunderland dismiss Crosby

BY STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

MALCOLM Crosby, who led Sunderland out in the FA Cup final nine months ago, became the seventeenth managerial casualty of the season yesterday when he was dismissed.

Having spent six months in charge at Roker Park in a caretaker capacity after Denis Smith's departure last season, Crosby's appointment was only confirmed after Sunderland avoided relegation from the second division. Even then, his contract was for only one year. He learnt that it was to be terminated prematurely yesterday morning after talking in his office to a representative of the local newspaper. Neither had any inkling of the impending decision.

Had Sunderland's goalkeeper, Norman, not committed an error and conceded Sheffield Wednesday's winner in the closing minutes of an FA Cup tie ten days ago, Crosby would doubtless still be in charge. At least, that is, until the replay. Yet the club's perilous position of seventeenth in the first division, which contrasts with the progress made by their rivals in the North East, Middlesbrough and Newcastle United, has ultimately cost him his job.



Crosby: sacked

The Sunderland board was "unanimous in its decision", according to a statement released yesterday, "that the appointment of a new manager is necessary to create success at all levels in which the club competes".

The list of potential successors includes Smith, who was recently dismissed by Bristol City, Bryan Robson and Terry Butcher.

☐ Mick Walker, who took over as caretaker manager at Notts County when Neil Warnock was dismissed last month, was yesterday given the job until the end of the season.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

FA Cup
Fourth round
Swansea v Grimsby

Premier League
Blackburn v Crystal Palace (7.45)

Autoglass Trophy
First round
Torquay v Plymouth (7.45)

Second round
Rochdale v Scunthorpe

Area quarter-finals
Bradford v Stockport
Chesterfield v Burnley
Huddersfield v Bolton
Port Vale v Northampton (7.45)

GM Vauxhall Conference
Kettering v Telford
Macclesfield v Altrincham
Northwich v Gateshead
Slough v Bath
POSTPONED: Merthyr v Yeovil. Stafford v Wycombe; Stalybridge v Wilton.

Scottish League
Premier division
Aberdeen v Rangers
Falkirk v Partick
Motherwell v Dundee Utd

First division
Dunfermline v Clydebank
Morton v Cowdenbeath
Raith v Hamilton

Second division
Brechin v Forfar
East Stirling v Queen's Park
Queen of South v Arbroath
Stenhousemuir v Alloa

Vauxhall FA Trophy
Second-round replays
Merthyr v Stalybridge
Runcorn v Gloucester (7.45)
Wycombe v Morecambe (7.45)

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Dulwich; Grays v Marlow; Hendon v Yeading; Sutton United v Wokingham. First division: Barking v Abingdon Town; Chalfont St Peter v Leyton. Second division: Worthing v Hampton.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton v Worcester, Midland division: Bedworth v Tamworth. Southern division: Margate v Salisbury

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round: Larne v Crusaders (7.45).

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield United v Liverpool. Postponed: Manchester City v Blackburn. Second division: Everton v Oldham (7.0); Wigan v Middlesbrough (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Portsmouth v West Ham (7.0); QPR v Arsenal (7.0); Wimbledon v Swindon; Second division: Bournemouth v Bristol Rovers.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE CUP: Gainsborough Trinity v Barrow; Marine v Caernarfon; Matlock v Netherfield; Workington v Southport.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Bath v Neath (7.30). Berry Hill v Newbridge (7.15); Edinburgh W v Currie (7.15); Glamorgan W v Pontypridd (7.0); South Wales Police v Abertillery (7.0). Swansea v Ebbw Vale (7.15)

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL CUP: Men: Quarter-finals: Thames Valley v Guildford; Worthing v Leicester.

OTHER SPORT

TENNIS: LTA women's satellite tournament (Newcastle).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA							
Lech	50	120	good	open	sunny	-2	28/1
(Skiing on cold, dry snow. All lifts, pistes open)							
Seefeld	35	100	fair	open	sunny	-1	28/1
(Snow becoming wet by noon. Entire ski area open)							
St Johann	30	60	good	slick	clear	-1	28/1
(Hard base with slick patches on lower runs)							
FRANCE							
Les Arcs	50	310	good	open	fine	5	27/1
(Pistes below 1,400m difficult. Good cover on upper)							
Les Menuires	20	150	good	bare	sunny	3	28/1
(Best on upper pistes. 52 lifts and 55 pistes open)							
Val d'Isère	100	185	good	open	sunny	0	27/1
(Excellent at all levels. Snow is dry and light)							
SWITZERLAND							
Klosters	30	190	good	wet	-2 sunny		28/1
(Dry, powdery snow on upper runs. All 29 lifts open)							
Saas Fee	40	225	hardpacked	open	sunny	-3	27/1
(Best snow on glacier. 24/27 lifts open)							
St Moritz	60	100	good	hard	sunny	-1	28/1
(Best snow on Corviglia runs. All lifts, pistes open)							
Villars	5	50	fair	closed	sunny	1	27/1
(Dry, powdery snow on hard base on upper slopes)							
ITALY							
Bormio	20	150	hard	hard	sunny	4	27/1
(11/18 lifts open. Still possible to ski all areas)							
Cervinia	100	250	good	good	fine	0	27/1
(Entire area and links open. Good skiing throughout)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

Wax factor will prove decisive

David Powell assesses the role technicians will play in the skiing world championships that start tomorrow

THE world championships begin in Morioka, Japan, tomorrow and rarely, if ever, have the ski technicians been so critical to results. Morioka's susceptibility to sudden changes in weather, combined with the flat courses, will expose their mistakes as if they were being advertised from the highest mountain peak.

"In some cases you're going to find that the difference between winner and second is the way the skis are tuned," Julie Parisien, one of the world's leading slalom racers, said. "This year, especially, the sport has become so technically oriented."

For the speed disciplines of downhill and super-giant slalom, the choice of wax may mean the difference between success and failure; in the giant slalom and slalom, it will be the ski edges that matter.

On the same latitude as *Madrid, the sun in Morioka* can be powerful; however, snowfall is plentiful because cold winds blow into the Honshu island resort from northern China, gathering moisture off the Sea of Japan.

"It's really tough for the technicians," Parisien said. "They can take down the edges to change the angle if they know what the snow conditions will be, but they cannot take them back immediately."

The downhill course is a glider's course, which means keeping on the flats of the skis: at the Olympics last year, the many turns forced competitors on to their edges. "In *Albertville gliding did not* count, skis did not count, the servicemen preparing the skis probably contributed ten per cent, and 90 per cent of it was down to the skier's technical ability," Ronald Duncan, Britain's No. 1, said. "In Morioka, 30 or 40 per cent of it will be gliding ability, 40 per cent skis and 10 to 15 per cent the servicemen."

This season a new range of fluorocarbon waxes, which replaced paraffin wax in the 1980s, has made the servicemen's work harder as they respond to late changes in the weather by altering the wax.

Duncan said: "The weather changes virtually every hour in Morioka, making it far more difficult to pick the skis. The key will be putting on the right wax for the conditions."

TIMETABLE: Tomorrow: Women's combination downhill. Feb 4: Women's downhill. Feb 5: Women's combination slalom. Feb 6: Men's combination downhill. Feb 7: Men's downhill. Feb 8: Men's combination slalom. Feb 9: Women's giant slalom. Feb 10: Men's super-giant slalom. Feb 11: Women's super-giant slalom. Feb 12: Men's giant slalom. Feb 13: Women's slalom. Feb 14: Men's slalom.

SWIMMING

Hickman only dips toe into senior waters

JAMES Hickman's arrival at the World Cup in Paris this weekend for his first senior international will be like no other; he is a national senior champion who is deemed too young to be a national senior team member (Craig Lord writes).

At 16, Hickman is one of Britain's most talented swimmers, but unlike foreign rivals of equivalent age, he will travel to France as the fastest Briton at 200 metres butterfly, compete against some of the finest swimmers in the world in six events, yet still be treated in all but name as a junior working to a junior programme. His British senior team membership will be temporary, for Paris alone.

Hickman's target for the year is the European junior *championships at Istanbul,* three weeks before the senior championships at Sheffield — and that is the way Hickman and Dave Calleja, his coach at Stockport Metro, want it.

Elsewhere, talent not age counts. Czene, Kasvio, Loader and Sievenen started winning big prizes when between 16 and 18.

Meanwhile, Fina, the governing body, is putting pressure on Britain to end its practice of sending separate England, Scotland and Wales association teams to the World Cup.

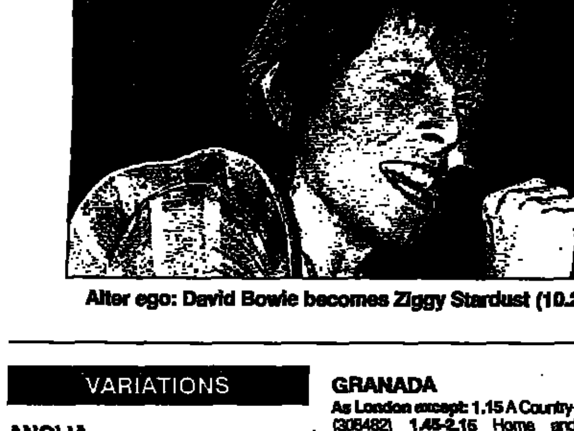
PARIS TEAMS: England: Men: A Clapper (City of Coventry); J Fleet (Borough of Waltham Forest); M Foster (Barnet Copthall); M Harris (Borough of Waltham Forest); J Hickman (Stockport Metro); A Packwood (City of Birmingham). Women: M Hardiman (City of Birmingham); K Osher (Barnet Copthall). Scotland: Men: G Smith (Stockport Metro). Women: A Pendrich (Beckenham). Wales: Men: A Ayres (City of Swansea); C Jones (City of Cardiff); P Melhuish (City of Cardiff). Women: V Hale (City of Swansea)

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BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (22753) **7.00 BBC Breakfast News** (83718685)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (4703050) **9.45 Ross King**. Game show (s) (6788376)
10.00 News and weather (9353444) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (6177314)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick (10374753)
12.15 Pebble Mill. Judi Spiers introduces a special edition about the life and career of entertainer Max Bygraves (r) (s) (7055579) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (98830550)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (66024)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (87367208) **1.50 First Letter First**. Word game hosted by Don Maclean (s) (87361024)
2.15 Film: On the Loose (1984) starring Steve Bergan. Australian-made rites of passage drama directed by Jane Dehr (3582640)
3.40 Cartoon Double Bill (8392685) **3.50 Pinocchio** (r) (7175735) **4.10 Jackanory** (1484444) **4.25 The New Yogi Bear Show** (r) (2016260) **4.35 Hangar 17**. (Ceefax) (s) (3546753)
5.00 Newsround (1959444) **5.10 Grange Hill**. Comprehensive school drama serial (Ceefax) (s) (4421821)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (910647). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. (Ceefax) Weather (37)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (89). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Holiday presented by Jill Dando from EuroDisney. Kathy Tayler samples a youth hostelling holiday. Sue Cook visits 11 different Swiss locations by public transport in four days and Nicky Fox takes a winter break in the Red Sea resort of Eilat. (Ceefax) (s) (7208)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (73)
8.00 Citizen Smith. Vintage comedy series (r). (Ceefax) (6956)
8.30 A Question of Sport presented by David Coleman. This week Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Chris Eubank, Paul Parker, Gary Schofield and Jamie Spence. (Ceefax) (s) (5463)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (3227)
9.30 Spender. Jimmy Nail stars as the unusual undercover policeman. (Ceefax) (s) (601647). Wales: Week In Week Out 10.00 Spender
10.25 Omnibus: Cracked Actor — David Bowie.
● CHOICE: The *Omnibus* retrospective continues with this 1975 film, shot mainly in Hollywood and directed by the now controller of BBC2, Alan Yentob. It catches David Bowie at a pivotal point in his career. He had recently killed off his most successful creation to that time, the outrageous, carrot-haired Ziggy Stardust, and was seeking fresh challenges. The film interweaves concert footage with interview material, much of it shot in the backs of cars. The aim, in effect, is to persuade the real David Bowie to stand up. Since most of his career has been devoted to hiding his own personality and inventing others, the exercise is only moderately revealing. Its value is that of an interim report, to remind us of the early Bowie and to allow us to draw comparisons between what he was then and what he has since become. (Ceefax) (475444). Northern Ireland: Home Truths 11.05 Country Times; Wales: 10.55 Omnibus
11.20 Film: The Big Sleep (1946, b/w).
● CHOICE: Private eye Philip Marlowe (Humphrey Bogart) is engaged by an elderly general to protect his young daughter. More relevant is Marlowe's encounter with the girl's older sister, who happens to be played by Lauren Bacall. From now on it is a question of forget the story and enjoy the chemistry. In any case the story is virtually incomprehensible. Even the author, Raymond Chandler, is said not to have understood it. But Chandler's rasping dialogue, transferred to the screen by Jules Furthman, Leigh Brackett and the novelist William Faulkner, more than compensates and the director, Howard Hawks, provides the appropriately seedy ambience. Bogart and Bacall striking sparks is what people remember but there is much relishable supporting work, not least from the eternal fall-guy, Elisha Cook Jr. (Ceefax) (711314). Northern Ireland. 11.30-1.20 Film: The Big Sleep; Wales: 11.50 Film: The Big Sleep 1.40 News and weather **1.10am Weather** (3722970)
2.15-3.15 BBC Select: Executive Business Club (923086)


Alter ego: David Bowie becomes Ziggy Stardust (10.25pm)

BBC2

6.00 Breakfast News (5791208)
8.15 Westminster. A round-up of news from both Houses (2013260)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather followed by **You and Me** (r) (51061463) **2.15 Past and Present Preserved**. A visit to the Prins Hendrik maritime museum in Rotterdam (r) (43399192) **2.30 See Hear!** Magazine series for the hearing impaired (s) (50)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (7422918) followed by **Westminster Live**. Iain Macwhirter and John Cole introduce live coverage of prime minister's questions (7153111) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8389111)
4.00 Catchword. Paul Coia presents the game show for wordsmiths (s) (42)
4.30 The Burglary Business. A documentary look at the burgeoning burglary business in the south-east (r) (14)
5.00 Germany Means Business: The Apprentices of Dresden. This last in the series follows five trainees with the Dresdner Bank as they start their traditional apprenticeship (8314)
5.30 Film 93 with Barry Norman. The films reviewed include *Damage* and *Public Eye* (r) (s) (66)
6.00 Film: Rooster Cogburn (1975) starring John Wayne and Katharine Hepburn. This lighthearted western, a sequel to the Oscar-winning *True Grit*, finds the trigger-happy Rooster trying to win back his lawman's badge by capturing a gang of bandits and recovering a cache of stolen explosives. His efforts are hampered by the presence of the bible-punching daughter of one of the gang's victims. Directed by Stuart Millar (11555289)
7.45 Assignment: Dereliction of Duty. George Alagiah investigates claims that the United Nations abandoned starving Somalis and that the same thing is happening in the Sudan (444192)
8.30 Food and Drink. Two Wolverhampton families and Michael Barry compare chicken breasts in tarragon sauce and tomato soup with convenience food versions (s) (3005)
9.00 Police Squad. Spoof American police series starring Leslie Nielsen (r) (159956)

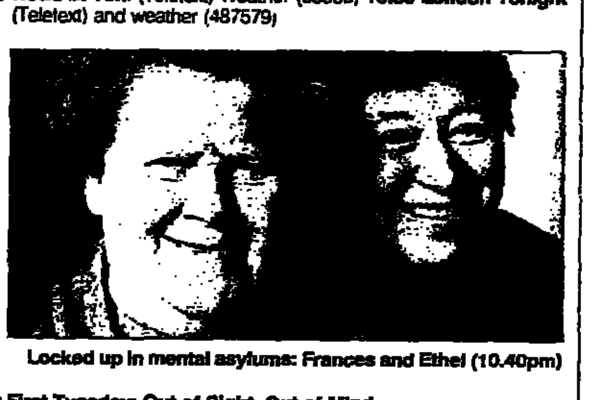

Photo opportunity: London Zoo keeper and panda (9.25pm)

9.25 The Ark: The Political Animal.
● CHOICE: Molly Dineen's series on the battle to save London Zoo reaches October 1991. A new panda is arriving from China. It may not do much for the zoo's shaky finances but it is a splendid photo opportunity, endorsed by the likes of Sir Edward Heath and Cilla Black. And the crowds turn up. Elsewhere the aquarium faces partial closure and there are the first rumblings of a revolt by staff and fellows against the zoo's management. Dineen is a skilful film-maker, who shoots her own material, presents it without commentary and also acts as unseen interviewer. But reliving events of 15 months ago does give a sense of raking up old history. Besides, the London Zoo saga has been extensively covered, not least on television, and no one who has followed it even remotely will find much here that is new. (Ceefax) (s) (101821)
10.25 Fifth Column. Roy Lilley, a businessman and local health authority member, argues that everyone should have a medical check-up and that people most at risk of needing treatment should pay higher national insurance contributions (629799)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (636753)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (796869)
11.55 Weather (891043)
2.00 Nightschool TV. Mathsphere Series 1 (81883). Ends at **4.00**

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ITV LONDON

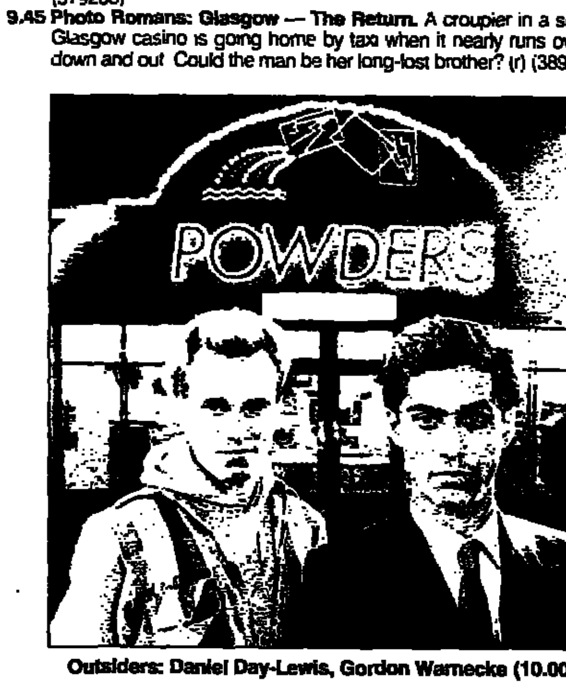
6.00 GMTV with Michael Wilson and Fiona Armstrong. The guests include Annie Lennox and Barbara Windsor (8793444)
9.25 Runway. Quiz game hosted by Richard Madeley (9878753) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6153734)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion programme (s) (9453192)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine series (80922024)
12.10 Wizadora. Learning with puppets series (1512669)
12.30 Lunchtime News. (Teletext) Weather (1307208) **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (80910024)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial (Teletext) (308482) **1.45 A Country Practice**. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (307753)
2.15 It's a Vet's Life. John Baxter explores veterinary acupuncture and visits a dog show in Germany. (Teletext) (399734) **2.45 Families**. Soap linking the north of England with Australia (s) (2309734)
3.10 ITN News headlines (7433024) **3.15 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7432395) **3.20 Blockbusters**. General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness (s) (5306376)
3.50 Rod 'n' Emu. Animation (r) (8383937) **4.00 Toucan Tecs** (s) (1488260) **4.15 Count Duckula** With the voices of David Jason and Ruby Wax (3535531) **4.40 Oasis**. Drama series about a group of children who frequent a piece of south London wasteland (Teletext) (s) (8863592)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (8382482)
5.40 Early Evening News. (Teletext) Weather (537463)
6.00 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (74482)
7.00 Emmerdale Soap set in the Yorkshire Dales. (Teletext) (2376)
7.30 A Day in the Life . . . Desmond Wilcox explores The Temple, the warren of chambers frequented by *Rumpole of the Bailey* types (s) (69)
8.00 The Bill: Shake, Rattle 'n' Roll. Ch Supt Brownlow blows his top and everyone is amazed by Insp Monroe's reaction. (Ceefax) (1024)
8.30 The Cook Report. The intrepid Roger Cook confronts another dodgy customer or company (3901)
9.00 Full Stretch Comedy series about a luxury car hire company. Starring Reece Dinsdale. (Teletext) (7173)
10.00 News at Ten. (Teletext) Weather (58956) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (487579)


Locked up in mental asylums: Frances and Ethel (10.40pm)

10.40 First Tuesday: Out of Sight, Out of Mind.
● CHOICE: Among the provisions of the Community Care Act, which comes into force in April, is that mental patients must be properly assessed. And not before time, according to this disquieting film, which claims that up to 40,000 people may have been locked away in mental institutions despite being sane. Some were women with illegitimate children, committed as mental defectives. Others were locked away because of physical disabilities, such as acute deafness. Parents dumped their difficult offspring. The film is built around five case histories, all in their way are distressing. Perhaps the worst is that of John Sylvester, who was sent to the workhouse by his alcoholic father and though not mentally ill spent 66 years in asylums. At 80 he has lost most of his life and is trying to make the best of what time he has left (732376)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Australian drama (768111)
12.30 The Little Picture Show. Video review (3951)
1.30 Film: Steptoe and Son Ride Again (1973) starring Wilfrid Brambell, Harry H. Corbett, Diana Dors and Milo O'Shea. The second feature film spin-off from the popular television comedy series about a father and son rag-and-bone business. In this yarn Harold uses his father's savings to buy a greyhound instead of a new carthorse. Directed by Peter Sykes (30951)
3.30 Quiz Night. Pub and club competition (99406)
4.00 The Beat. Includes music from Hothouse Flowers and a review of the film *Damage* (r) (s) (52593)
5.00 Riviera. Soap charting the fortunes of the de Courcey family, an aristocratic French dynasty (48970)
5.30 ITN Morning News (44593). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.40 Spiff and Hercules. Animation (5390192)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (56647)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (35005)
9.30 Schools (675983)
12.00 The Parliament Programme. Anne Perkins with a round-up of business from both Houses (55869)
12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning series. The guest is actress Candice Bergen (41005) **1.30 Lift Off** Young children's entertainment (s) (63376)
2.00 Film: Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe (1945) starring Betty Grable, Dick Haymes and Phil Silvers. Romantic musical about the son of a nightclub owner who falls for a showgirl and gives up his medical studies to become a dancer. Directed by George Seaton (544192)
3.55 Waterways Dick Warner is on the fifth of his six-leg voyage by barge from Dublin to Limerick (8968840)
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley presents another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (82)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Today's guests are young gays and their estranged parents. (Teletext) (s) (8239647)
5.50 The Magic Roundabout Classic children's entertainment, narrated by Nigel Planer (r) (234227)
6.00 Crystal Maze Richard O'Brien leads two more teams through tests of skill, strength and intellect (r) (s) (72024)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) Weather (939444)
7.50 Comment (580598)
8.00 Decisions, Decisions. The fifth of a six-part series on real-life dilemmas looks at people whose partners are addicted to dangerous sports (9666)
8.30 Operation Hospital. Series on London's King's College Hospital in 1992. The all-embracing organisational audit is greeted with scepticism. Further problems arise when a report from outside consultants suggesting that the hospital could manage with 240 fewer nurses is leaked to the press, resulting in anger and disbelief among the staff. (Teletext) (8173)
9.00 For Love or Money presented by Nicholas Ward-Jackson. Paul Gambaccini discusses the investment boom in comics and actor Michael Gambon displays his collection of restored antique pistols (579208)
9.45 Photo Romans: Glasgow — The Return. A croupier in a seedy Glasgow casino is going home by taxi when it nearly runs over a down and out Could the man be her long-lost brother? (r) (389395)



Outsiders: Daniel Day-Lewis, Gordon Warnecke (10.00pm)

10.00 Film: My Beautiful Laundrette (1985) starring Gordon Warnecke, Daniel Day-Lewis and Saeed Jaffrey. The *Film on Four* season of repeats continues with this award-winning social drama about the homosexual romance between two old school friends, one Pakistani, the other English, as they raise the finance to open their dream launderette. Directed by Stephen Frears (454482)
11.50 Dream On. American comedy series about the love life of a divorced New York publisher. Starring Brian Benben (r). (Teletext) (s) (652111)
12.25am Sing Loud Play Strong. A documentary about an Aboriginal rock festival held in Darwin, Australia (r) (s) (9923777)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (5306376) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8382482) **6.00** Home and Away (584734) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (275463) **7.30-8.00** Food Guide (69) **12.35** McCloud (333241) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (3034715) **3.25** ITV Chart Show (4899) **4.20** Freddie Jackson (97745241) **4.30** Riviera (77970) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (48970)

BORDER
As London except: 3.20-3.50 Sons and Daughters (5306376) **6.00** Lookaround (55) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (85) **7.30-8.00** Ambulance (69) **12.35** McCloud (333241) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (3034715) **3.25** ITV Chart Show (4899154) **4.20** Freddie Jackson (97745241) **4.30** Riviera (77970) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (48970)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (308482) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (307753) **3.20-3.50** GP (5306376) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8382482) **6.00** Home and Away (584734) **6.25-7.00** Central News (275463) **7.30-8.00** Heart of the Country (69) **11.40** Film. Hollow Point (111685) **1.25** Kojak (4580795) **2.20** The Big E (9593116) **3.15** Sport AM (914338) **4.15** Jobfinder (3711883) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (3723086)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (308482) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (307753) **2.45-3.25** Gardener's Diary (2309734) **3.20-3.50** Sons and Daughters (5306376) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8382482) **6.00** Home and Away (85) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (85) **7.30-8.00** House Style (69) **12.35** McCloud (333241) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (3034715) **3.25** ITV Chart Show (4899154) **4.20** Freddie Jackson (97745241) **4.30** Riviera (77970) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (48970)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (307753) **3.20-3.50** The Sullivans (5306376) **6.00** HTV News (55) **6.30-7.00** Good Health (85) **7.30-8.00** Channel Traders (69) **12.35** McCloud (333241) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (3034715) **3.25** ITV Chart Show (4899154) **4.20** Freddie Jackson (97745241) **4.30** Riviera (77970) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (48970)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** 4x4 **7.30-8.00** On The Road With Elinor

MERIDIAN
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (5306376) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (55) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (85) **7.30-8.00** Ambulance (69) **11.40** Future Perfect (628024) **12.10-12.30** Coach (8700357) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (48970)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (5306376) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (55) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (85) **7.30-8.00** Love At First Sight (69) **11.40** Ice Hockey (864734) **12.40** Comedy Tonight (4354203) **1.05** The Little Picture Show (7610628) **2.05** 60 Minutes (3025067) **3.00** Countdown (41998) **4.00** Disaster Chronicles: The Xania Tornado (9103796) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder (6234680)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Fair City (307753) **6.00-7.00** UTV Live at Six (74482) **7.30-8.00** Bon Voyage (69) **11.40** Crime Story (157955) **12.35** McCloud: Night of the Shark (333241) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (3034715) **3.25** The ITV Chart Show (4899154) **4.20** Freddie Jackson in Profile (97745241) **4.30** Riviera (77970) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (48970)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (307753) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (5306376) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (74482) **7.30-8.00** Members Only (69) **12.35** McCloud (333241) **2.25** The Little Picture Show (3034715) **3.25** ITV Chart Show (4899154) **4.20** Freddie Jackson (97745241) **4.30** Riviera (77970) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (48970)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (5306376) **5.55** Calendar (945685) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (85) **7.30-8.00** Love at First Sight (69) **11.40** The Evening Standard British Film Awards 1992 (864734) **12.40** Comedy Tonight (4354203) **1.05** The Little Picture Show (7610628) **2.05** 60 Minutes (3025067) **3.00** Count Down (41998) **4.00** Disaster Chronicles: The Xania Tornado (9103796) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (6234680)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (56647) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (35005) **9.30** Schools (675983) **12.00** The Parliament Programme (55869) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (64005) **1.00** Lift Off (59734) **1.30** The Treasure Hunters (63376) **2.00** The Late Late Show (20734) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5604024) **3.50** The Battle (3764444) **3.55** Happy Days (6407918) **4.25** Slot 23 (8118734) **5.00** Countdown (3482) **5.30** Moviewatch (34) **6.00** News (959024) **6.10** Heno (388918) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (8078) **7.30** Mas O Diwn (11) **8.00** Stell (9666) **8.30** News (591717) **8.55** Lleifior (1878937) **10.05** The Golden Girls (263918) **10.35** The Sexual Imperative (731647) **11.35** The Avengers (863005) **12.35** For Love or Money (4793628) **1.20** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (38652753) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (5054685) **9.10** Cartoons (8791463) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (19579) **10.00** Strike It Rich (78395) **10.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (71821) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (40668) **12.00** Falcon Crest (92802) **1.00pm** E Street (40604) **1.30** Another World (2014717) **2.15** Santa Barbara (937918) **2.45** Maude (936289) **3.15** The New Leave It To Beaver (926802) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (4189050) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8579) **6.00** Rescue (9821) **6.30** E Street (9173) **7.00** Alf (9208) **7.30** Family Ties (8686) **8.00** Seinfeld (8956) **8.30** Anything But Love (7463) **9.00** Murphy Brown (22579) **9.30** Gabriel's Fire (83208) **10.30** Studs (72550) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (85173) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (6105444) **9.30** Nightline (21591) **10.30** Beyond 2000 (62937) **11.30** International Business Report (54937) **1.30pm** Good Morning America (67482) **2.30** Parliament Live (3436192) **3.15** Parliament Live (73079579) **5.00** Live at Five (222956) **7.30** Target (441289) **10.30** Nightline (67802) **11.30** ABC News Tonight (73111) **12.30am** Beyond 2000 (67357) **1.30** ABC News (59932) **2.30** Target (98970) **3.30** ABC News (83865) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (93864) **5.30** ABC News (82777)

SKY MOVIES+
6.00am Showcase (2197482)
10.00 Going Under (1990): Comedy about an inept submarine crew (17111)
12.00 Some Kind of a Nut (1969): Dick Van Dyke's beard causes a furore (461395)
1.45pm On a Clear Day You Can See Forever (1970): Musical starring Barbra Streisand (68705395)
4.00 The Perfect Date (1989): Comedy about a disastrous night out (11463)
5.00 Supermom's Daughter (1990) A teenager wants to be a teacher (3647)
6.00 Going Under (as 10am) (74055598)
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (489531)
8.00 Mermaids (1990): Comedy-drama starring Cher, Winona Ryder and Bob Hoskins (33173)
10.00 Eve of Destruction (1990): A military android goes haywire (618753)
11.40 The Rookie (1990): Clint Eastwood's new partner is Charlie Sheen (857840)
1.40am The Godfather Part III (1990): Francis Ford Coppola's gangster epic starring Al Pacino (60755390)

4.25 Listen To Me (1989): Drama about a debating team (687357). Ends at **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm White Heat (1949): James Cagney stars as a mother-fixated gangster (29918)
8.00 The Jericho Mile (1979): Prisoner Peter Strauss aspires to enter the Olympics (30474024)
9.50 Priest of Love (1981): Biopic starring Ian McKellen as the writer D.H. Lawrence (50435482). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
7.00am Lies My Father Told Me (1975): A boy idolises his grandfather (63490956)
8.45 Beach Ball (1965): Edd Byrnes has fun in the sun (574918)
10.15 Muscle Beach Party (1964): Frankie Avalon musical (13010192)
12.00 April Morning (1988): American civil war drama (469937)
1.45pm Billion Dollar Hobo (1978): Tim Conway must become a tramp to gain an inheritance (30570956)
3.25 Young Survivors (1982): Three shipwrecked children pass the time by telling stories (56103111)
5.00 Held Hostage (1991): True story of American reporter Jerry Levin (78378)
7.00 Memphis (1991). Kidnapper Cybill Shepherd forms a bond with the son of a wealthy black industrialist (12227)
9.00 Winter People (1989): Kurt Russell meets single mother Kelly McGillis (63314)
11.00 Drugstore Cowboy (1989): Junkie Matt Dillon steals for his next fix (960753)
12.45am Desire and Hell at the Sunset Motel (1991): Psychological thriller starring Sherilyn Fenn (223390)
2.30 Eat a Bowl of Tea (1989): A Chinese family moves to the United States (147593)
4.15 Rock Around the Clock (1956, b/w): Musical starring Bill Haley (4796680)
5.35 Tarantula (1955, b/w): A giant arachnid creates havoc (4121512). Ends at **6.55**

SKY SPORTS
6.00am Test Match Cricket: India v England (4619444) **11.00** Welsh Open Snooker (97666) **1.00pm** Fishing (48666) **1.30** Trucks 'n' Tractor (62260) **2.00** Muscle Night (19666) **3.00** Watersports (49260) **4.00** Boots and All (68395) **5.00** Test Match Cricket (5866547) **9.00** The Footballers' Football Show (98024) **11.00** Test Match Cricket (90802) **1.00am** Motor World (68845) **1.30-2.00** Gillette Sports (98574)

EUROSPORT
8.00am Step Aerobics (44376) **8.30** Ski Jumping World Cup (81227) **9.30** Horseball (40227) **10.30** Step Aerobics (56111) **11.00** Eurogoals (39918) **12.00** Motor Cycling (77192) **1.00pm** Cyclo Cross (86840) **2.00** Alpine Skiing (92840) **4.00** Shooting (53463) **5.00** Eurogoals (5847) **6.00** Athletics (855208) **8.30** Eurosport News (4531) **9.00** Kick Boxing (85799) **10.00** Boxing (32666) **11.30-12.00** Eurosport News (18519)

SCREENSPORT
7.00am ASP Surfing (47937) **7.30** Gillette World Sports (26444) **8.00** Squash — World TV Super Series (29753) **9.00** PBA Ten Pin Bowling (34024) **10.00** Kick Boxing (55956) **11.00** Bud Water Ski Tour (75665) **11.30** NHL Ice Hockey (98395) **1.30pm** Mickey Thompson Off Road Racing (80802) **2.00** Top Match Football (17208) **3.00** Show Jumping (47802) **4.00** Monster Trucks (1314) **4.30** Volvo PGA Golf (55802) **5.30** Football Europa (1550) **6.00** 1992 White Water Rafting (8453) **6.30** Superbowl XXVII (16550) **8.30** Pro Box 1993 (64685) **10.30** European Snooker League 1993 (64802) **12.30-1.00am** Gillette World Sports (93319)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (38440531) **6.15** Button Moon (38478314) **6.30** The All New Popeye Show (1277685) **7.00** Beverly Hills Teens (3400802) **7.30** Neighbours (3429937) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (5001734) **8.30** EastEnders (5000005) **9.00** The Bill (5024685) **9.30** When the Boat Comes In (5823132) **10.30** Casualty (7819821) **11.30** Don't Wait Up (8822799) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (5004821) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5693666) **1.00** EastEnders (3409173) **1.30** The Bill (5692937) **2.00** Porridge (7817550) **2.30** Bread (3937395) **3.00** Dallas (4222735) **4.00** Beverly Hills Teens (3928647) **4.30** Degrassi Junior High (3917531) **5.00** Neighbours (7808802) **5.30** Dr Who: The War Games (3931111) **6.00** When the Boat Comes In (5601685) **7.00** Porridge (7828666) **7.30** Don't Wait Up (3918260) **8.00** EastEnders (7837314) **8.30** Bread: Carla Lane's sitcom (7818821) **9.00** Casualty (3710444) **10.00** The Bill (5005550) **10.30** Ripping Yarns: Michael Palin as a first world war POW (5021598) **11.00** Dick Emery (8622591) **11.30** Film: Lucky Partners (1940, b/w) starring Ginger Rogers and Ronald Colman (6000227) **1.00-2.00am** Videos (9126319)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew Lyle. Including A. Gabrieli (Gloria in 16 parts: Gabrieli Consort and Players under Paul McCreesh); Martinů (Sinfonia Concertante: City of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox); Schumann (Study in A flat, Op 56 No 4: Thierry Mechler, organ), Mozart (Fantasy in C minor, K385g: John Khouri, pedal piano); Walton (Suite, Façade: English Northern Philharmonia under David Lloyd Jones)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Brahms. String Sextet in B flat, Op 18 (Isaac Stern and Cho-Liang Lin, violins; Jaime Laredo and Michael Tree, violas; Yo-Yo Ma and Sharon Robinson, cellos); Clarinet Sonata in F minor, Op 120 No 1 (Richard Stoltzman, clarinet, Richard Goode, piano)
10.05 Morning Sequence: Toivo Kuula (Chanson sans paroles, Op 22 No 1: Jussi Peltonen, cello, Kalevi Kiviniemi, organ); Schumann (Phantasiestücke, Op 88. Joshua Bell, violin, Steven Isserlis, cello, Olli Mustonen, piano); Théodore Dubois (In Paradisum: Kalevi Kiviniemi, organ); Mendelssohn (Piano Trio No 1 in D minor, Op 49: Joshua Bell, violin, Steven Isserlis, cello, Olli Mustonen, piano); Joseph Bonnet (Variations de concert, Op 1: Kalevi Kiviniemi, organ); Schubert (Piano Trio in E flat, D929: Joshua Bell, violin, Steven Isserlis, cello, Olli Mustonen, piano)
12.00 An Hideous Noyse: Gabrieli Consort and Players perform church music by Byrd, Gibbons and Tomkins (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 BBC Welsh SO under Tadaaki Otaka performs Sibelius (Violin Concerto in D minor: Dong-Suk Kang), Elgar (Symphony No 2 in E flat)
2.35 Castalian Band performs Senaillé (Violin Sonata in D minor); Couperin (Passacaille in B minor, Ordre No 8); Montéclair (Cantata, Pan et Syrinx) (r)
3.10 Music for Piano Duet: Anthony Goldstone and Caroline Clemmow play Berwald (Minnen af Norska Fjällen); Grieg (Waltz Caprices, Op 37); Sinding (Suite in F, Op 35) (r)
3.55 BBC Scottish SO under Takuo Yuasa performs Fauré (Suite, Pelléas et Mélisande); Hayashi (Carnival, a wind-born premonition)
4.30 The Myth Maker: In the fourth of eight programmes, the American record producer George Avakian talks to Ian Carr about his work with Erroll Garner
5.00 In Tune: Anthony Burton's guest is the violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter
7.30 Pebble Mill, live from Studio One, Birmingham. Nicholas Daniel, oboe, Julius Drake, piano, perform Schumann (Three Romances, Op 94); Schumann, arr Ferguson (Duo, Op 56 No 4); Richard Rodney Bennett (Arabesque); Howells (Oboe Sonata). **8.10** Early Christianity and the Dead Sea Scrolls. Mark Geller argues that the Gospels' ban on divorce can be traced to the sectarian Judaism of the time. **8.30** Colin Matthews (Night Spell; Duologue); Berio (Sequenza VII for solo oboe); Schumann, arr Joachim (Abendlied); Schumann (Adagio and Allegro, Op 70)
9.15 The Man with Night Sweats: The second of four programmes in which Thom Gunn reads poems from his latest collection
9.25 Musica Viva: Cherubini Quartet; Bavarian Radio Chorus and SO under Heinz Holliger perform Liszt, transcr Holliger (Nuages gris; Unstern!); Sandor Veress (Concerto for string quartet and orchestra); Holliger (Gesänge der Frühe for chorus, speakers, orchestra and tape, after Schumann and Hölderlin)
10.45 Night Waves. Humphrey Carpenter presents the arts programme
11.30 Tippett and Bridge: Raphael Wallfisch, cello; Ulster Orchestra under Nicholas Braithwaite performs Tippett (Concerto for double string orchestra); Bridge (Oration)
12.30-12.35am News
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as R5 at 1 05pm)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Call Nick Ross: 071-580 4444. Lines open from 8am
10.00-10.30 News; Nina Myskow in St Andrews (**FM** only): The journalist and broadcaster makes a nostalgic journey to St Andrews in Scotland
10.00 Daily Service (**LW** only)
10.15 The Screwtape Letters (**LW** only): Letters from a Senior to a Junior Devil, by C.S. Lewis. With Gerald Harper as Screwtape (14/15)
10.30 Woman's Hour reports on pelvic inflammatory disease; and talks to the French actress Leslie Caron. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Medicine Now
12.00 You and Yours
12.25pm The Older Woman: A comedy by Tony Bagley. Starring Zoë Wanamaker as Jane, Martin Clunes as Roy and Toyah Willcox as Elsa (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) (s) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Thirty-Minute Theatre: Parole, by Nigel Brown. The lives of Kay and her son are turned upside down by the return of Peter's father, John. With Elizabeth Estensen, Matthew Sim and Keith Drinkel (s)
2.30 Richard Baker Compares Notes with Graham Wells, director of the musical instruments department, and Stephen Roe, director of the musical manuscripts department, at Sotheby's (s)
3.00-4.00 Tuesday Lives (**FM** only), with Joanna Buchan
3.00 Prime Minister's Questions (**LW** only) **4.00 News**
4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews Graham Rigby's *The Black Cook's Historian*, the winner of the 1992 Constable Trophy for Fiction; visits the Dulwich Picture Gallery to view Rembrandt's *Girl at the Window*; and listens to a new recording of Tchaikovsky's songs by Joan Rogers (s)
4.45 Short Story: Leon Sinden reads two tales from Barry Pain's *Eliza* stories
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Second Thoughts: Old Problem. Starring James Bolam as Bill and Lynda Bellingham as Faith (r) (s)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers (s)
7.20 File on 4: Wendy Jones reports
8.00 Science Now (r)
8.30 The Miles Kington Interview: John Brown
● CHOICE: This post-mortem chat with John Brown (Bill Paterson), Queen Victoria's favourite servant, is the best in the series to date, although it does not open promisingly. Kington gets no more than a gruff "Aye" reply to his first two leading questions. Thereafter, cautious interviewer and pungent retainer establish a good working relationship. Kington learns what "fangle" means, but clearly does not need to be told what Brown means when he says that the present Queen strikes him as looking "wornt", pale and ill, as if she could do with "a good man at her side"
8.45 In Touch: Peter White presents the programme for people with a visual handicap
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r) (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White (s) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Alexander MacLeod (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Thus Was Adonis Murdered, by Sarah Caudwell (7/10) (s)
11.00 Stanza: On Stage. Andrew McAllister introduces a poetry reading by Grace Nichols and Fred d'Aguiar from the Watershed Media Centre, Bristol (s)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** World Service (**LW** only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Classic FM: FM-100-102.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW**. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (**FM** only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Select-a-Brit **6.30** News '93 **7.00** Mark Goodier's Evening Session **9.00** The Record Producers: Glyn Johns (r) **10.00** Nicky Campbell Goes into the Night **12.00-4.00am** Bob Harris (**FM** only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** Neil Kinnock **7.00** An Actor's Life for Me **7.30** Hayes Over Britain **9.00** After the Fox: Louise Bruce traces the story of the foxtrot **10.00** Hollywood Hookers: Fred Astaire **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until 7.00pm. **3.40am** Test Match Special: India v England **5.00** World Service **6.30** Test Match Special **8.30** Morning Edition Update **8.50** Test Match Special **11.00** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **12.30pm** A Century Remembered (r) **1.05** Schools: Infant Science — See for Yourself; **1.20** First Steps in Drama; **1.40** Wordplay; **1.50** Singing Together; **2.10** Time to Move **2.30** A Game of Two Halves **4.30** Five Aside **7.15** The Return of the Indian (2/5) **7.30** Football Plus **10.10** Earshot, incl **11.00** Sport **12.00-12.10am** News

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** World Business Report **4.40** Travel and Weather News **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** World and British News **6.14** Travel News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** News Ideas **7.50** Writers in a Nutshell **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** International Recital **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report Live **9.15** Inside the Photograph Album **9.30** Images of Britain **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Discovery **10.30** Unravelling Ravel **11.00** Newsdesk **11.29** Travel News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update **Midnight** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 1 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook Live **2.30** Four Short Stories: 1. The Boarding House **2.45** Musical Mavericks **3.00** World News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **4.00** World News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News Headlines in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** World News and Business Report **5.14** Travel News **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** World News **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** News About Britain **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** World News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** International Recital **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Omnibus **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Travelling Tales **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Development '93 **3.00** World News **3.10** News About Britain **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Discovery **4.00** World News **4.15** Images of Britain

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Saint-Saëns (Piano Concerto No 2. Earl Wild); Debussy (Nocturnes) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Classic Opera Guide **8.00** Classic FM Concert: Berlin PO under Claudio Abbado performs Ravel (Boléro); Brahms (Symphony No 4) **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

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Dexter praises 'magnificent' fightback but spinners put India in sight of crushing Test victory

England left clutching at straws



A sweep too far: more than half of Gatting's 81 runs came from his favourite shot but his duel with Chauhan ends as he drags the ball on to his stumps. Photograph: Graham Morris

FROM PETER BALL
IN CALCUTTA

PRAYING for rain in Calcutta is usually an unrewarding exercise. Today, it represents just about England's only chance of avoiding defeat in the first Test against India who, with all their second-innings wickets in hand, need 43 runs to secure their first win in 11 Tests.

The area weather forecast, which predicted overnight rain and a delayed start, was the best straw around for England to clutch. Ted Dexter evidently found another when he described the second innings total of 286 as "a magnificent performance on that pitch against that attack". One wondered what David Gower might have thought if he had heard that from the chairman of selectors after watching Robin Smith totally bemused by the sight of a slowly turning ball, and Neil Fairbrother hardly playing a shot in anger during more than two hours at the crease.

But if the England rearguard action fell short of setting India a difficult target, at least they mounted one. Effectively, the match was lost on Saturday afternoon.

The display yesterday was a significant improvement. Gatting once again confirmed his status as one of the outstanding players of spin in the modern game, both Salisbury and Taylor batted with good sense and sound technique, and Fairbrother resisted grittily. Perhaps most heartening of all were signs that Hick may be shedding his inhibitions at Test level.

The uncertain, stumbling figure of the first innings was replaced for a time by a player Worcestershire know as a batsman in control and confident in his own ability to dominate the spinners. Sadly, just when he seemed set to break free — sweeping and driving Kumble out of the attack and hitting Raju, the replacement, for a straight six — he was undone by the loss of Gatting, and a tentative prod forward ended an innings of positive intent.

But if there were hopeful signs for the future, it was still India's day. The only blot on an admirable display came in some over-enthusiastic appealing from the close catchers.

Spin held sway from the start: "Indian spin, British dance" read one banner in the crowd. Chauhan, Kumble and Raju bowled 120 consecutive overs between them, starting after eight overs of the new ball on Sunday afternoon and continuing until after tea yesterday, when Azharuddin finally turned to seam to break the partnership between Salisbury and Taylor, who were repeating their first-innings resistance.

When England resumed in the morning still needing 80 runs to make India bat again, there was little dancing from Smith, whose ponderous footwork exposes him to the turning ball. He was attacked relentlessly by Chauhan and Kumble, and after producing a scratchy eight runs from 74 balls he departed. He received possibly the game's first debatable decision as More's appeal for a catch was upheld.

If Smith's contest with the spinners resembled bear-baiting, Gatting's was a more equal match. His duel with Chauhan was fascinating as he retained some initiative, keeping the score moving primarily with his favourite sweep.

The duel ended in Chauhan's favour. Forty-two of Gatting's 81 had come in sweeps but he swept once too often, dragging a wide off break on to his wicket. If anybody doubted the significance the Indians did not, racing to mob Chauhan in the belief that he had struck the decisive blow.

The message was not lost on Hick. Suddenly tentative, he was trapped leg-before by the first ball he faced after Gatting's departure. From then on it was only a matter of time. Fairbrother, Salisbury and Taylor resisted determinedly enough to ensure that the game was taken into the final day.

Australia routed, page 38
ICC delay, page 38

Arsenal pay £2m for player they sold for £200,000

BY IAN ROSS

ARSENAL yesterday bought the England defender, Martin Keown, from Everton for £2 million, ten times the amount they received when they sold him to Aston Villa seven years ago. The transfer will be completed today if Keown passes a routine medical examination.

Keown, 26, began his career at Arsenal as an apprentice in 1984 but, after making 27 senior appearances, he joined Aston Villa for £200,000 in June 1986. Keown agreed to rejoin Arsenal on Saturday morning and, after informing Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, of his decision, he was withdrawn from the side which played against Norwich City at Goodison Park.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, was not at Highbury with Keown yesterday, so he was unable to explain the attraction of a player who is cup-tied and whose Everton contract was scheduled to expire at the end of this season.

It also saved him from answering questions about why Arsenal let the same player go in the first place. Two years ago Keown said: "I left because George and I could not agree over money. I wanted £50 a week more than he was prepared to offer. It seemed crazy that they wouldn't agree and, though I didn't want to leave and Arsenal didn't want me to go, it became a matter of principle. Villa came in and offered me double what I was asking of Arsenal."

Yesterday, Keown took a softer line: "It was not about money. I left Arsenal to gain wider experience and have picked up nine caps on the way. I have no regrets."

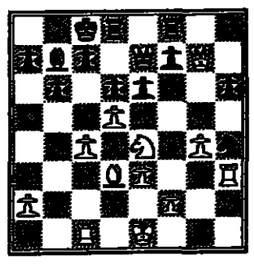
It was only after moving to Everton for £750,000 in August 1989 that Keown blossomed and won England recognition.

Although Everton are estimated to be £4 million in debt, Kendall is expected to be allowed to use at least a portion of the fee to pursue Duncan Ferguson, the Dundee United forward. Kendall faces stiff competition from a host of similarly ambitious, but possibly more affluent, Premier League clubs.

Crosby sacked, page 38

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



Games between world champion Kasparov and Candidates finalist Timman have always been fascinating, although the results have been heavily in Kasparov's favour. Today's position is an example. Kasparov — Timman, Holland 1985. White to play and win.

Solution on page 36

WORD-WATCHING

ORGULOUS
a. Angry, vexed
b. Proud, haughty
c. Infected with nits

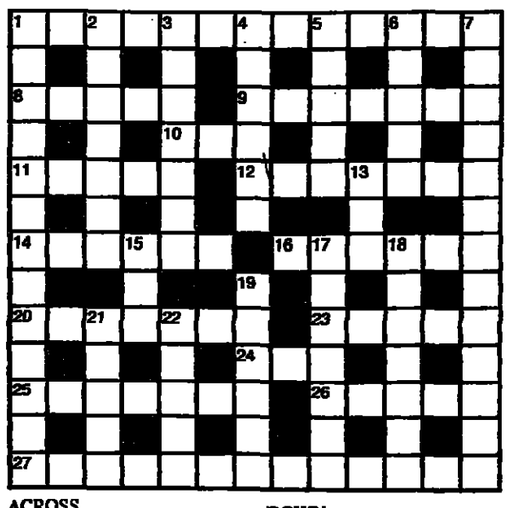
NAPPE
a. A draught or pull
b. A stance at fencing
c. A stalemate at chess

MEATUS
a. A natural passage
b. A transition in music
c. Mediation

GIMMAL
a. A cobbler's vice
b. A peasant
c. A ring

Solution on page 36

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3011



ACROSS
1 Coastal defence point (8,5)
8 Amount charged (5)
9 Very old (7)
10 Stove top (3)
11 Lazy type (5)
12 Baby articles (7)
14 Make possible (6)
16 Monkey bread tree (6)
20 Boat race series (7)
23 Dedicated helper (5)
24 Clash (3)
25 Hair wash (7)
26 A Job's comforter (5)
27 Defensive destruction policy (8,5)

DOWN
1 'Male menopause' (3,4,6)
2 German measles (7)
3 Beguile (7)
4 Responsible (6)
5 Shoddy (5)
6 Flour grass (5)
7 Pre-1832 small constituency (6,7)
13 Self (3)
15 Bust holder (3)
17 Grow together (7)
18 Obstacle (7)
19 Wheedle (6)
21 Sea bird fertiliser (5)
22 Discussion theme (5)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3010

ACROSS: 7 Cave 8 Au revoir 9 Pelmet 10 Pewter 11 Pest 12 Nihilist 15 Assassin 17 Bond 18 Chapel 21 Stuffy 22 Rotation 23 Ship

DOWN: 1 Baseless 2 Helmet 3 Hastings 4 Wrap 5 Avowal 6 Mike 13 Hang Seng 14 Sinn Fein 16 Appear 17 Bruise 19 Hood 20 Lair

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SCOREBOARD FROM CALCUTTA

India won toss

INDIA
First Innings 371 (M Azharuddin 182, S R Tendulkar 50).

Second Innings

		6s	4s	Min	Ball
M Prabhakar not out	12	-	-	54	34
N S Sidhu not out	20	1	2	54	39
Extras (lb 3, nb 1)	4				
Total (no wkt, 54 min, 12 overs)	36				

BOWLING: Malcolm 6-1-16-0 (2-1-5-0, 4-0-11-0); Jarvis 2-1-1-0; Taylor 3-1-9-0 (nb1); Salisbury 1-0-7-0 (one spell each).

ENGLAND
First Innings 163

Second Innings

		6s	4s	Min	Ball
*G A Gooch st More b Kumble	16	-	2	52	40
Lifted back foot from batting crease					
†A J Stewart c Tendulkar b Kumble	49	1	5	133	127
Bat-pad to silly point					
M W Gatting b Chauhan	81	1	12	191	165
Sweeping — ball kept low					
R A Smith c More b Chauhan	8	-	1	59	74
Faint edge to wicketkeeper					
G A Hick lbw b Raju	25	1	3	55	43
Playing half forward					
N H Fairbrother c sub (W V Raman) b Kumble	25	-	1	125	113
Bat-pad to silly point					
C C Lewis c Amre b Raju	16	-	3	44	44
Bat-pad low to short leg					
P W Jarvis lbw b Raju	6	-	-	18	20
Stretching forward					
I D K Salisbury c More b Kapil Dev	26	-	4	138	109
Chasing wide ball					
J P Taylor not out	17	-	2	87	91
D E Malcolm lbw b Kapil Dev	0	-	-	1	1
Missed inswinger					
Extras (lb 13, nb 2)	15				
Total (460 min, 137.2 overs)	286				

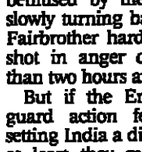
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48 (Stewart 25), 2-111 (Gatting 34), 3-145 (Gatting 59), 4-192 (Hick 25), 5-192 (Fairbrother 0), 6-216 (Fairbrother 5), 7-234 (Fairbrother 17), 8-254 (Salisbury 12), 9-286 (Taylor 17).

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 8.2-5-12-2 (4-2-7-0, 4.2-3-5-2); Prabhakar 9-4-26-0 (nb3) (4-0-20-0, 5-4-6-0); Chauhan 46-17-79-2 (1-0-1-0, 6-0-30-0, 19-8-23-2, 8-3-15-0, 8-4-6-0, 3-2-4-0); Raju 35-9-80-3 (9-1-25-0, 5-2-4-0, 19-5-50-3, 2-1-1-0); Kumble 40-16-76-3 (18-8-31-2, 9-8-28-0, 1-0-3-0, 8-6-5-1, 4-1-9-0).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: Third day: Tea 35-0 (Gooch 14, Stewart 17; 10 overs). 50: 56 min, 14.4 overs. 100: 127 min, 37.1 overs. Close 128-2 (Gatting 48, Smith 2; 48 overs). Fourth day: 150: 201 min, 60.4 overs. 200: 270 min, 81.3 overs. Lunch 205-5 (Fairbrother 2, Lewis 11; 85 overs). 250: 348 min, 104.3 overs. Tea 261-8 (Salisbury 16, Taylor 3; 122 overs). New ball taken after 132.3 overs at 285-8. Innings closed 3.19pm.

Umpires: P D Reporter and S Venkataraghavan.

Batsmen take turns to forget basics



DAVID MILLER
At the Calcutta Test

THERE are many adjectives that might describe England's second innings here, but magnificent is hardly one of them. There are lessons to be learnt from the first Test match and they involve playing, management and administration.

Weeks of practice at Lilleshall against seven spin bowlers in the autumn clearly has taught one or two of England's senior batsmen little about the art of playing the turning ball. A severe price has been paid over the years for playing on covered pitches at home.

The fundamental of playing forward as far and as often as possible to smother the spin has not been consistently observed here, least of all by Smith — a fine player of fast bowling — and Fairbrother, who is still searching for the Test career he was predicted to enjoy; while Hick, at the second attempt, had been striking Kumble forcefully only to play half-forward to Raju and be leg-before.

Gatting, purposeful, with his first fifty in nine Tests, was bowled attempting to sweep Chauhan at 81, thereby provoking an academic as much as a practical debate. The sweep had produced half his runs. Yet several overs before he was out, it was evident that he was increasingly taking a risk by going for balls pitched wide of the off stump, thereby heightening the possibility of a top edge or of dragging the ball on to his stumps. Therefore, though needing to push the score along and cause disarray to the field placings, should Gatting have shown restraint at this stage? Probably.

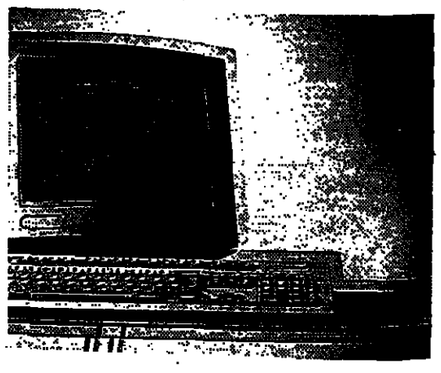
Dexter, the chairman of the selectors who picked the squad but who is not involved in selection on tour, observed that it is one thing to stay at the crease, another to score. Salisbury, and also Taylor, again showed that it was possible to stay put, Salisbury surviving more balls (271) in the match than anyone but Gatting (307).

In the matter of management, Keith Fletcher may have learnt that a team manager cannot afford to be too close to his players. He will understandably have had sympathy with the wish of his captain and long-time colleague, Gooch, to play in his hundredth Test, yet the question has to be asked whether Gooch, unwell, should have played?

Possibly not. Either Reeve or Blakey was available as a spare batsman — Atherton was also ill — and a fit medium-standard player can often be a better bet than an unfit outstanding player.

This particular question also raises the desirability of having a team doctor. Dexter says that a doctor has always been available for consultation; but a doctor from, say, the British Embassy or British Airways or a local hospital, is not going to make a direct recommendation to the team manager that a player should not play. Certainly not one of Gooch's stature.

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